

SUMMER

Daily

NEBRASKAN

THURSDAY
JUNE 28, 1990
VOL. 89
NO. 157
UNIVERSITY OF
NEBRASKA-
LINCOLN

This Week:

SAC Trek. --Page 6-7
Summer in the city. --Page 8
Track teams sign recruits. --Page 9



Michelle Paulman/Daily Nebraskan

Neva Carter-Brown, carrying the flag, leads demonstrators in a march in front of the County-City Building, but they had to stop because they did not have a marching permit. About 40 people rallied Wednesday to support passage of the Equal Rights Amendment.

Protest calls for ERA

By Mark Georgeff
Staff Reporter

The president of the Lincoln-Lancaster Commission on the Status of Women, Patty Pansing Brooks, said at a rally Wednesday, that gender bias against women should be one of the most important issues for Americans to be concerned with.

"We are not here to disparage the flag or to criticize the Flag Amendment. The flag is the most powerful lasting and unifying symbol we possess. Instead, we are here to focus public attention to the last six words of the Pledge of Allegiance, '...with liberty and justice for all,'" Pansing Brooks said.

About 40 people attended the commission-sponsored rally in front of the County-City building, 555 S. 10th St.

Before Pansing Brooks' speech, signs with pro-Equal Rights Amendment slogans were carried by some at the rally.

Some of the protestors' signs stated messages of concern over the still unratified ERA and why national attention is focused on a proposed flag amendment instead of the ERA.

A recent gender bias study released through the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Chancellor's Commission on the Status of Women was among the reasons that "compelled us to be here today," Pansing Brooks said.

"In Lincoln, Nebraska, we have a university which continues to discriminate against women at all levels," she said.

She also named the Nebraska Supreme Court office's study concerning the Nebraska court system and the proposed flag desecration amendment to the United States Constitution as reasons for the gathering.

"If the cost in dollars and energy and emotion is not too great to pursue a Constitutional Amendment to protect the flag... certainly, it is not too great to amend the Constitution to protect over 53% of our Nation's population," she said.

Pansing Brooks also said that local shelter homes for women and children, the Lincoln Food Bank and other such social services are in urgent need of assistance.

Malcom resident Carita Baker said she thinks there is too much emphasis on the flag amendment and not enough on gender bias.

"I wouldn't burn the flag itself when there's more serious issues to be concerned with," she said.

Ada Munson, a commissioner with the Nebraska Coalition for Women, said, "We find so much concern in areas where little damage is done instead of where no attention is being given."

Virginia Nelson, one of 28 members of the Lincoln-Lancaster Commission on the Status of Women, said, "I think it's really important that the ERA hasn't been ratified yet."

"It's a time warp. These are battles that are still being fought," Nelson said.

Official says national ranking may mislead

By Matt Herek
Senior Editor

Even though a recent report released by a national organization showed that state financing for higher education in Nebraska had the third highest percentage increase in the nation from 1987 to 1989, a UNL vice chancellor said the percentage figures can be deceiving.

Irvin Omtvedt, vice chancellor for Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources and chairman of the Ad Hoc Operations Budget Review Committee, said that when the University of Nebraska gets an additional \$1 million, that is likely to be a higher percentage increase than in states that give more money to higher education.

Omtvedt said he wasn't surprised to see Nebraska ranked as high as it was because the support figures, published by the National Association of State Universities and Land Grant Colleges, were based on percentages.

In terms of operating finances, UNL ranks last among eight of its peer institutions, Omtvedt said.

The average for UNL's peer institutions was 7.4 percent, with UNL bringing up the rear with 2.2 percent operating costs, he said.

The shortage of finances at UNL has deteriorated to the point where instructors are unable to give handouts to their students because printing costs are too high, Omtvedt said.

Quality programs at UNL are "adversely impacted by inadequate budgets," he said.

State Sen. Jerome Warner of Waverly said the percentage increase was high in part because in 1981, '82, '85 and '86, the Nebraska Legislature made across-the-board cuts in the entire state's budget, including money that would have been used for higher education.

Warner said it is unlikely that Nebraska higher education will receive the same percentage increase in the future as it received from 1987-89.

The percentage will probably go down, but he said he couldn't speculate how much the decrease would be.

He said the decrease will depend on how the economy behaves and on how many new programs the legislature enacts without raising taxes.

He said the reason the percentage was so high from 1987-89 was because financing for higher education in Nebraska was below standard and had to be brought up to par.

See RANKING on 2

Selleck open for housing

By Christine Pillard
Staff Reporter

This is the first summer Selleck Quadrangle has been open for summer housing, and it will remain open year-round, according to Douglas S. Zatechka, director of housing at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

During the summer pre-session, 250-260 students had housing contracts, Zatechka said, more than twice as many as in past years. He said the Office of University Housing never expected that many contracts.

All students who want to stay in a residence hall during the summer must live in Selleck this year, he said.

In past summers, students stayed in Smith Hall, Zatechka said, but because of noise complaints from other groups staying in the complex for summer camps, students were separated from the campers, he said.

The Selleck complex's central location and handicap accessibility, combined with the recent installation of central air conditioning and an elevator, make it better suited for year-round housing, Zatechka said.

But food service is not available at Selleck during the summer, he said.

Students do not have to pay for a meal plan, but those who do are served their meals at the Harper-Schramm-Smith dining hall.

Zatechka said the arrangement is not the most convenient way to offer summer food service, but one reason the kitchen isn't open is because there are not enough students in Selleck with meal plans to make it feasible.

It takes 350-400 students with meal plans to break even, he said, and with the number of students right now, a \$110,000 loss would be suffered if the Selleck dining hall was open. To keep it open, the rates charged to students with meal plans would have to be exceedingly high, he said.

For a 5-week session this summer, Zatechka said, living in a double-occupancy room with a meal plan costs \$222 more than without meals. He said the number of students with meal plans is down from last summer.

Housing officials are looking at other options that would allow Selleck dining hall to remain open, Zatechka said. The dining facility is large enough to accommodate most groups, so it would be possible to have Selleck and one other kitchen open and have temporary guests walk a few blocks for their meals, he said.