

# Daily Nebraskan

Tuesday

## WEATHER

Today, sunny but not as warm, south wind 5-10 miles per hour becoming variable in the afternoon, high in the low to mid 70s. Tonight, clear, low in the low 40s. Wednesday, mostly sunny and warm, high in the mid 70s.

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University of Nebraska-Lincoln

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## Jaksha extols 2 percent lid at UNL forum

By Sara Bauder Schott  
 Senior Reporter

Ed Jaksha, petitioner for the proposed 2 percent lid, knew he was speaking to a hostile audience, but that didn't keep him from trying to explain why the lid is a good idea.

Jaksha, speaking at a forum on the lid Monday night, told the audience that the University of Nebraska would not be affected by the lid, but by how the Nebraska Legislature acts.

The 2 percent lid amendment, which will go before voters next Tuesday, would limit state and local government spending to a 2 percent increase each year.

The university budget would be between the Legislature and the university, and would not be addressed by the proposition to limit government spending, Jaksha said.

The proposed constitutional amendment does not address the internal operations of any government body, he said.

"Let the Legislature pass its budget package, then let the arguments between (UNL) Chancellor (Martin) Massengale, the departments, and the athletic department begin," Jaksha said.

The other four panel members disagreed with Jaksha's statement that the lid would not affect the university.

Gary Oxley, superintendent of Tri-County Public Schools, said the lid would have a "definite negative impact" on the university and other schools in Nebraska. Tri-County Public Schools includes the towns of DeWitt, Plymouth and Swanton.

In the past, many people recruited into education have shown lower IQ's than their predecessors, Oxley said. To reverse this, he said, postsecondary, secondary and elementary institutions must pay more to get quality professors and teachers. He said 15 percent increases may be needed each year just to recruit those quality educators.

Randy Moody, a spokesman for People Against the 2% Lid, said the lid would have an adverse effect on curriculum at universities. The lid would force the university to look for programs to cut, he said.

Moody said that if the university wanted to keep its programs and keep the same number of students in them, it would have to raise tuition.

Many of Nebraska's students could be priced out of a UNL education, he said, meaning the programs wouldn't be able to survive in spite of the tuition increase.

The program cutting would begin this year if the lid passes, Moody said. Because the lid is retroactive, funds budgeted for this year would have to be under the 2 percent mark, he said.

Jaksha said his proposal is not retroactive to the current budget year. However, he said, he did not have time to explain why it isn't.

Jaksha said he saw no reason for students to leave the university if his proposal is passed. As the audience grumbled at his remark, Jaksha asked to be treated with respect.

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Wall flower

Artist Marlene Mueller applies chalk to her wall drawing at the UNL Gallery of the Department of Art and Art History in Richards Hall. Mueller is one of the artists displaying work in "Area Drawing." The exhibit "creates large, colorful, temporary wall drawings," according to gallery director Karen Kunc.

Butch Ireland/Daily Nebraskan

## Candidate: NU is key to state

By Shelley Biggs  
 Staff Reporter

The higher education system must be improved to stem the tide of outward migration from Nebraska, a regent candidate said Monday.

Charles Wilson, speaking to members of the Afrikan Peoples Union in the Culture Center, said Nebraska needs "educational enhancement," with more funding to keep students, faculty and industry in the state and to attract talent from other states.

Wilson, a Lincoln cardiologist, said the University of Nebraska is the most important

institution in the state. The addition of Kearney State College to the university system on July 1, 1991, will heighten that importance, bringing NU enrollment to close to 50,000 students.

The university has a major impact on the state and its industry, he said.

"But Nebraska is facing difficult times if we don't create new industries and jobs in this state," he said.



Wilson

By improving the state's educational system, Nebraska will be able to attract more industry, Wilson said.

In the past, he said, industry has passed over Nebraska because it lacks research and academic resources.

"The university is the key to the state," he said.

Wilson said he disagreed with his opponent, Dick Powell, on the issue of a scholarship program for South African students. The Association of Students of the University of Nebraska has called for a South African scholarship program as a way to combat apartheid.

## Officials: Dissolution won't hurt loans

By Tabitha Hiner  
 Staff Reporter

Dissolution of one of the country's prime guarantee agencies for student loans should have no effect on University of Nebraska-Lincoln borrowers, officials said.

John Beacon, director of the Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid at UNL, said that the dissolution of one guarantee agency, the Higher Education Assistance Foundation, will not affect

the stability of the guaranteed student loan program.

"The students could be affected if the whole Department of Education had trouble with guarantee agencies, but I don't think that will happen," he said.

The department announced that the Nebraska Student Loan Program will serve as Nebraska's interim primary guarantee agency.

Marcia White, communications manager of corporate communications for NSLP, said NSLP

is hoping not to face the problems HEAF did. HEAF's troubles began when it passed its honeymoon period, Beacon said.

NSLP is still in its honeymoon period, White said, and the company has been preparing for the end of the grace period since it was formed.

A guarantee agency's honeymoon period occurs during its first five years. During that Beacon said that HEAF's default rate had been about 11 percent in recent years.

See LOAN on 3

## Lied Center lures patrons, money downtown

By David Dalton  
 Staff Reporter

The Lied Center for Performing Arts has lived up to expectations by pouring customers and dollars into downtown Lincoln, officials said.

Bert Harris, administrator of Lincoln's Department of Economic Development, said audiences for Lied Center productions have increased downtown activity, particularly in the restaurant business.

"People in that business who have talked to me have said it was a big boost," he said.

Jim Higgins, owner of The Bistro, 126 N. 14th St., said he thinks the Lied Center is an asset to the down-

town area. He said he could see its effect on his business.

"Definitely there's a noticeable increase," he said.

Jeff Holte, manager of the University Club, 128 N. 13th St., agreed, saying that Lied Center performances have increased the number of customers at the restaurant.

"It has had a wonderful effect on our business," Holte said.

But not all business owners are equally satisfied.

Ron Pushcar, owner of eleven Restaurant & Lounge, 1248 O St., said that although more patrons have come in on show nights, the numbers aren't what he was led to believe.

"It's not unbelievable, by any means," he said. "It's not like we're

swamped."

On the average, he said, a Lied Center performance increases business by 10-15 percent.

"It helps, but it certainly isn't the panacea that we thought," Pushcar said.

The Lied Center's marginal impact, Pushcar said, is best measured by the number of diners on weeknights.

"I bet you can find a table any place in this town to eat at 6 o'clock Monday through Thursday, if there is or if there isn't a performance," he said.

However, Brian Magee, food and beverage director at the Cornhusker Hotel, 333 S. 13th St., said he was happy with the number of customers drawn by the Lied Center.

"We're very pleased with the amounts of people we have coming in," he said.

The center was an impetus for change in downtown in recent years, Magee said.

"The word is that the downtown is becoming more of an entertainment market at night," he said.

Harris agreed, saying that although retail stores are migrating to the suburbs, the downtown is "a thriving evening district in restaurant and bars."

Because of this, he said, Lincoln is working to build the arts and entertainment environment downtown.

"We think it's very important to have a downtown that's active and exciting and safe at night," Harris said. "That's a pretty rare thing in

downtown America."

Jack Thompson, who served as co-chairman of the Lied Center campaign during its construction, said he thinks the center is a significant part of downtown revitalization.

"The Lied Center has contributed in a major way to the development of the downtown and the atmosphere surrounding the downtown," he said.

But former University of Nebraska Regent Robert Simmons, who in 1986 voted against the center's building contract, said that the university assumed too much of the cost for downtown development.

"That's a municipal matter," Simmons said. "The university shouldn't be spending its dollars for the downtown development of Lincoln."