

Bill violating NCAA rules advances

By Adeana Leftin
Staff Reporter

Legislative committee members supported a bill Thursday to break NCAA rules after the bill's sponsor told them it penalizes students for participation in athletics.



The Judiciary Committee of the Nebraska Legislature advanced Sen. Ernie Chambers' bill challenging NCAA rules pertaining to financial aid for student athletes.

The bill now faces first-round consideration in the Legislature. It must advance three more times to pass.

The bill states that students' eligibility to receive federal and state financial aid is based on demonstrated financial need. No student should be deprived of the aid on the basis of his or her participation in an intercollegiate athletic program or sport, according to the bill.

"(Student athletes) must not be discriminated against because they choose to participate in sports," Chambers of Omaha said at a public hearing Thursday in front of the Legislature's Judiciary Committee.

According to Chambers, current NCAA rules state that student athletes who walk on and participate in varsity athletics after the university has run out of its allotted athletic scholarships cannot receive an academic scholarship or any other financial aid.

Because the NCAA won't amend these rules, Chambers said, "it is necessary for the Legislature to step in and fill this breach."

James O'Hanlon, the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's representative to the NCAA, said he was fearful of NCAA sanctions against Nebraska schools.

"At least give (the NCAA) a chance," he

said. "If (the bill) becomes effective by the beginning of next year, I can assure you a crisis."

James Cavanaugh, the registered lobbyist for Creighton University, agreed, saying the NCAA should be given a chance to change its own rules.

Chambers said he thinks the NCAA has been given enough time to amend its rules, and if it doesn't change them soon "it is necessary for the Legislature to step in."

Chambers said he received confirmation from the attorney general that "the Legislature has power to conflict whatever law it chooses."

Official: Number of reservists should make draft unnecessary

By Kathy Wiemers
Staff Reporter

Although male college students are eligible for a military draft, it probably won't be instituted, according to a Selective Service official.

Roma Amundson, assistant state director of the Selective Service, said President Bush and the national director of the Selective Service have stated publicly that the draft is not necessary. Instead, she said, there are about 1 million reservists who could be called to serve in the Persian Gulf war.

If the draft was instituted, the university would work with those students as it has with reservists who have been called up, said Linda Schwartzkopf, administrative assistant to the vice chancellor for student affairs. Reservists have been allowed to withdraw from classes without penalties.

After calling up men ages 20 to 25, 19-year-olds would be selected, Amundson said, and men age 18 1/2 would be called last.

Deferments are allowed, but only for special circumstances, she said. Drafted students could get a temporary deferment to finish the semester or to graduate. Seniors could get deferments until they graduated.

Students with an extreme hardship, Amundson said, such as a student taking care of an ill

parent, would be allowed to defer service for up to one year. Deferments based on hardship are looked at individually, she said.

Students who are conscientious objectors may be exempted from the draft, she said. Conscientious objectors might be willing to serve in the military, but not in combatant roles. They would be assigned to non-combatant positions.

Those who refuse to serve in the military would be given other assignments, such as work in state nursing homes or state hospitals, she said.

If the draft were called, the university would work with those students like it has with reservists who have been called up, said Linda Schwartzkopf, administrative assistant to the vice chancellor for student affairs.

Schwartzkopf said reservists have been allowed to withdraw from classes without penalties.

She said the timing of a draft would affect what the university could do. If students were called up in April, Schwartzkopf said, faculty members could work with them by giving incompletes or grades based on the finished classwork.

Schwartzkopf said the university also must consider students receiving federal grants, so they would not have to return the grant money.

OPERATION DESERT STORM



Many NU personnel serving in gulf war

An estimated 140 University of Nebraska students, faculty and staff members have taken military leave or interrupted their studies to participate in Operation Desert Storm.

UNL

Six staff members and 76 students.

UNO

A faculty member, four staff members and 31 students.

NU Medical Center

Five faculty members, eight staff members and 10 students.

Source: University of Nebraska Office of Public Affairs

Amie DeFrain/Daily Nebraskan

UNL won't adopt rule requiring loan tests, financial official says

By Bill Stratbucker
Staff Reporter

A new interpretation of legislation passed by Congress in November requires all students who lack a high school degree or its equivalent to take a government-approved test to receive financial aid.

But standardized testing of college loan applicants is unlikely at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, said John Beacon, director of scholarships and financial aid.

The section of the Omnibus Reconciliation Act of 1990 requires students to prove their ability to benefit from the financial aid provided. The requirement was meant to decrease the national loan-default rate. It went into effect Jan. 1.

But Beacon said the requirement won't affect UNL students.

"We simply don't allow anyone to enroll who doesn't have a high school degree or its equivalent," he said.

Beacon said trade schools that do not have high school graduation standards will be hardest hit by the new rule.

He said the default rate, nationally about 30 percent of all loans issued, is a widespread problem.

But the default rate at UNL is less than 3 percent, he said.

College-prep program gets students Upward Bound

By Jean Lass
Staff Reporter

A program started last year to encourage high school students from low-income families to further their education has been successful, the director of multi-cultural affairs said.

Jimmi Smith said none of the high school students who started the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's Upward Bound program last year have dropped out.

"That becomes important when you are talking about the success of the program," Smith said. "Success is really their (the students) moving toward (high school) graduation."

To help students graduate, Upward Bound, which currently serves

50 ninth, 10th and 11th graders, provides support services and college-preparation programs to encourage participants to think about career goals.

"What we do is assist beyond the classroom," Smith said. "The public school has done its job."

Smith said the program was needed because there were no other systematic efforts to help low-income, under-represented, disadvantaged youth in Lincoln prepare for postsecondary education.

The program represents four groups of students: Hispanic, Vietnamese, American Indian and black. Blacks make up 40 percent of Upward Bound students, the largest group represented in the program.

The only requirements for partici-

pation are that the students come from low-income families or have parents who did not graduate from four-year colleges.

Smith said Upward Bound teaches enrichment skills, assertiveness, human relations, time management and remedial instruction so students can gain the skills necessary to succeed in higher education.

These skills are taught primarily during the summer. For six weeks, Upward Bound participants live in UNL residence halls five days a week.

"They learn what it's like to be an adult," Smith said. "They can ask themselves, 'What stressors do I feel? Can I learn to live in a group? Can I cooperate?' And they can find out what it's like to be a college student.

"Because of economic reasons, most low-income youth are often denied these experiences," he said.

Smith said the program helps students gain admission to postsecondary institutions and assists them in obtaining financial aid, which is often a roadblock.

Now, "financial aid is not the crimpler as it has tended to be in the past," he said.

Not all Upward Bound participants attend UNL, Smith said. Instead, they are encouraged to go where their skills take them, he said.

Smith said the design of the program also contributes to its success.

"The staff really cares, and they communicate that," he said.

The Upward Bound staff is made

up of three UNL students during the academic year. They meet with participants to help them keep up with their studies.

The staff's interaction with students is what makes the program work, Smith said.

"When they (the participants) share with the staff and work through a project, they have a level of motivation and they gain greater insight."

The success of the Upward Bound program also stems from the members of the U.S. Congress who "put their mouths and money into the project," Smith said.

The program receives \$140,000 dollars from the federal government, with \$128,000 going to the Upward Bound program and the rest to UNL.

Higher UPC costs reason for increase

By Heather Heinisch
Staff Reporter

Several University Program Council committee chairpersons Thursday justified their request for an overall 12 percent budget increase by saying they needed the money for program improvement.

UPC committee officials told the Committee for Fees Alloca-



tion that their main reason for asking for more student fee dollars is the need to attract more nationally known speakers or performing acts.

UPC adviser Tim Moore said speaker fees and concert bookings are costing more every year and UPC must pay more money for programs that will draw the biggest crowds.

The UPC Major Concerts Committee is requesting a \$3,300 increase in its budget to bring better bands to Lincoln, committee chairwoman Kate Gustafson said.

"They'll come if we have the money to pay them," she said.

"We need continued support from the state to continue the progress," he said.

Nelson said that although NU might not receive all the funding it hoped for, the amount of money received from grants and contracts continues to rise.

If the \$4 million increases are not in the governor's budget proposal, he said, current research at the university will not suffer.

"I'm confident the research programs will continue to be strong," he said.

New programs might be financed, Nelson said, but "not at the same level as we want them to be."

Research

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their budgets.

In his inaugural address, Nelson said higher education in particular must use funds more efficiently.

Nelson plans to announce his budget proposal Feb. 1.

Orr's Nebraska Research Initiative is a five-year plan, now in its third year, to infuse \$4 million each year into NU research.

Henry Baumgarten, interim associate vice chancellor for research at UNL, said that under Orr's program the university made significant progress.

POLICE REPORT

Beginning midnight Wednesday, Jan. 23

4:21 p.m. — Outside police assistance, bag and contents stolen from auto, 15th and S streets, \$180.

9:27 p.m. — Two-car, non-injury accident, Harper/Schramm/Smith complex parking lot, \$575.

10:39 p.m. — Purse stolen, Henzlik Hall, \$15.

11:25 p.m. — Check and miscellaneous items stolen, Nebraska Union, \$40.

Do you have something to sell?

For only \$3.00 you can list items for sale in the classifieds.

If it doesn't sell in a day, your ad will continue running* until it is sold at no additional cost.

Take advantage of this limited offer!

Only applies to UNL students with non-commercial items.
*Until the end of the semester

Daily Nebraskan
Basement of the Nebraska Union