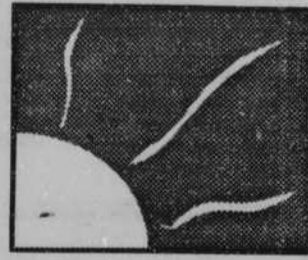


# Daily Nebraskan

February 12, 1991

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Vol. 90 No. 98



## TODAY'S WEATHER

Today, mostly sunny with the high around 50 and a north-west wind 5-15 mph. Clear with the low around 20 tonight. Increasing cloudiness Wednesday with the high in the 50s.

## Senators punt bill to pay football players

By Tabitha Hiner  
Senior Reporter

By defeating a bill to pay Nebraska football players, the Nebraska Legislature showed it is "more afraid of the NCAA" than it is interested in doing justice to players, Omaha Sen. Ernie Chambers said. LB68, a bill that would have given Nebraska football players stipends, was defeated 19-16 during the first round of consideration Monday. Bills must be advanced by 25 votes.



Chambers, the bill's sponsor, can have the bill reconsidered once by the Legislature. Fourteen senators did not vote on the bill, and Chambers said he did not realize so many senators would miss the vote.

Senators opposed to the bill said it would

place Nebraska in violation of NCAA rules that prohibit member schools from paying their athletes.

Sen. Rex Haberman of Imperial said he agreed that football is "a great financial wealth to the university" — an argument made by Chambers.

However, if LB68 were passed, Haberman said, Nebraska could be forced to withdraw from the NCAA.

"If this state is forced to withdraw, just forget the football program and the whole ball of wax," he said.

Chambers argued that the wording in the NCAA rules did not make it clear that the University of Nebraska would be kicked out of the association for not complying.

Although Sen. Elroy Hefner of Coleridge said he sympathized with the football players, he also opposed the bill because of possible sanctions the NCAA could place on the univer-

sity. If the bill passed, the NCAA could choose to remove Nebraska from bowl game participation and televised games, Hefner said.

He said the answer was to work with the NCAA.

However, Chambers said "there are some principles of justice and equity that supersede NCAA rules."

When he opened discussion, Chambers said players who come from poor families are hurt by NCAA rules that prohibit them from holding jobs during the school year. Their option is to take money illegally, he said.

Chambers said everyone involved with Nebraska football gets paid except the athletes.

"(It (Nebraska football) is packaged, marketed and sold . . . to the highest bidder," Chambers said.

After the vote, Chambers said he thought it

was "hypocritical for senators to pretend to be concerned about the players," yet not pass the bill.

However, Chambers said, because LB68 was offered and debated seriously, the NCAA will be persuaded to look at its rules closer.

The bill had been amended by Chambers and Sen. Chris Beutler of Lincoln to require the NCAA to work with NU to reduce the amount of time players spend on football.

"We want to go back to the days when the student athletes spent a reasonable amount of time on outside activities," Beutler said.

After complaints by Haberman that the arguments given by Chambers and Beutler would "fit like a glove" for other sports, the amendment was further amended by Sen. Eric Will of Omaha.

Will's amendment would have required the NCAA to investigate the amount of time collegiate scholarship athletes in general spend on athletics.

## Bill for higher education compact advanced

By Tabitha Hiner  
Senior Reporter

After they were assured that the Midwestern Higher Education Compact would not bind Nebraska into long-term obligations, state senators Monday advanced a bill to enter Nebraska into the compact.

LB209 would make Nebraska the sixth state to join the compact, which would allow member states to coordinate and strengthen services and reduce higher education costs.

Sen. Ron Withem of Papillion, the bill's sponsor, said there would be few long-term obligations from the bill because an amendment to it would require only those states that contract

for compact services to pay for them. Withem said the one obligation Nebraska would have by passing the bill would be the compact's annual \$58,000 fee. And the state only would be obligated for two years if it decided to repeal the bill and end the compact, he said.

Sen. Gerald Conway of Wayne, a co-sponsor of the bill, called the

compact a "golden opportunity for Nebraska," and said now is the time to join it.

By joining while the compact is in the formation stages, Conway said, Nebraska could direct the compact to meet the state's needs.

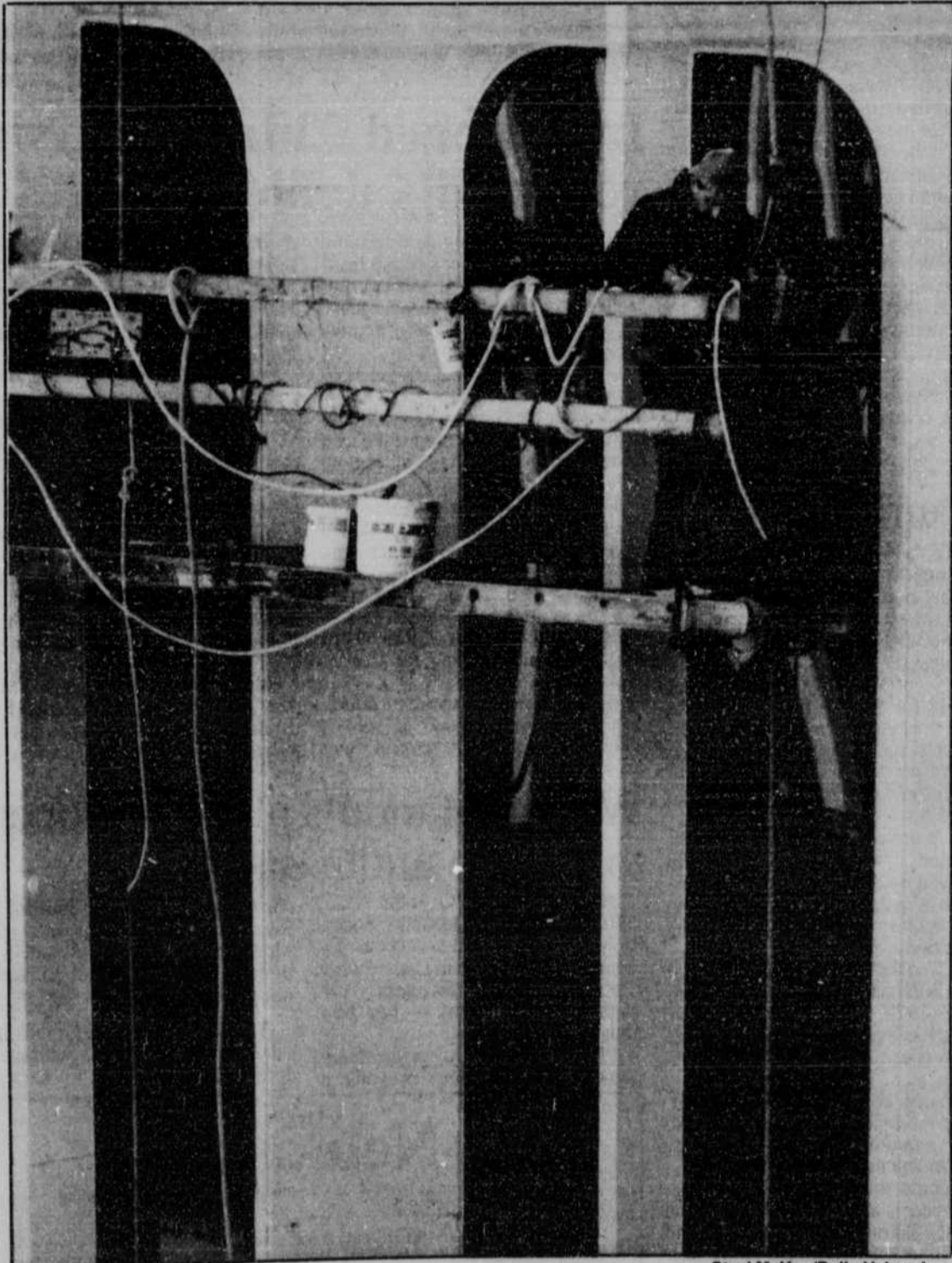
The compact will help member

See COMPACT on 6

## TUESDAY

### INSIDE

Wire	2
Opinion	4
Sports	7
A&E	9
Classified	10



Taking a high view

Fred Guevara from Stutzman Sealants of Pleasant Dale waterproofs windows around Hamilton Hall Monday afternoon.

Staci McKee/Daily Nebraskan

## U.S. airstrikes increased against key Iraqi targets

DAHHRAN, Saudi Arabia (AP) — U.S. and allied jets stepped up the air war Monday with hundreds more bombing runs against Iraqi targets. The city of Basra, strategic heart of Iraq's defense, was believed to be all but cut off.



"We hated to come back, but we ran out of bombs," an exuberant U.S. Air Force pilot told reporters on his return.

As U.S. air commanders pressed this "battlefield preparation phase," President Bush met with his war advisers to consider ordering American troops onto that battlefield.

Emerging from a White House meeting with Defense Secretary Dick Cheney and joint chiefs chairman Gen. Colin Powell, both just back from Saudi Arabia, the president said the air war "will continue for a while."

As for a ground offensive, Bush said, "we're not talking about dates."

In Baghdad, the government announced it was reaching still deeper into the Iraqi population for teen-age soldiers to help "destroy the enemies of God and humanity."

Also Monday, Iraq's religious affairs minister, Abdullah Fadl, said "thousands" of civilians have been killed or wounded in allied bombings. It was the first time a senior Iraqi official had spoken of such high civilian losses. The government previously listed 650 civilian dead.

Peace activist and former U.S. Attorney General Ramsey Clark, newly returned to New York from a week in Iraq, said the chief of the country's Red Cross affiliate estimated civilian deaths at 6,000 to 7,000.

A Soviet envoy, Yevgeny Primakov, ventured into bomb-battered Baghdad to meet with Iraqi President Saddam Hussein on Tuesday about a Kremlin initiative to end the war. In Yugoslavia, representatives of 15 non-aligned nations began considering an

See GULF on 6

## Official: More financial aid money needed to retain minority students

By Angie Brunkow  
Staff Reporter

A recent report blaming lack of financial aid as one of the major causes for low college-completion rates among low-income and minority students is on target, UNL's Multi-Cultural Affairs director said.

"The No. 1 reason of minority students for not continuing education at a postsecondary institution is financial aid," Jimmi Smith said.

The report by Congress' Advisory Committee on Student Financial Assistance recommended that numerical targets be set for increasing the participation rates of these types of students.

Smith said the University of Nebraska-Lincoln also needs to adopt measures to decrease the number of

minority students who drop out because they lack sufficient financial aid.

He said the UNL Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid makes a genuine effort to fulfill the needs of all low-income students, but not enough funds are available.

Smith suggested that UNL could redirect funds to target various types of minority students. Students could be considered based on need, academic performance and talent, he said.

With this method, more opportunities would be available for minority students, he said, and not just one type of student would benefit.

Another option would be to offer scholarships for minority students in particular fields. Smith said minority students need money incentives to

See AID on 3