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WEATHER

Mostly cloudy this morning with a few flurries. Becoming partly sunny this afternoon with the high around 35. Clear tonight with the low 15-20. Thursday, partly cloudy with the high around 40.

Minority panels up again

By Adeana Leftin
Staff Reporter

The Association of Students of the University of Nebraska would be taking a step in the right direction if it passes legislation to create four standing subcommittees addressing the needs of minority groups, a senator said.

Teachers College Sen. Steve Thomlison authored the amendment to the bylaws that would create racial affairs, sexual orientation, students with disabilities and international students subcommittees.

The subcommittees would fall under the Campus Life Committee and would be composed of one senator and six student-at-large members, he said.

Thomlison said all of the members would have a vote in the subcommittee.

The subcommittees would have the power to write a subcommittee proposal about issues of importance to them, he said. The proposal would be considered by the Campus Life Committee and if passed would become senate legislation.

Because there would be no quotas on the committees, Thomlison said, there may be disproportionate representation on the committee, and subcommittee members would have to consider each other's needs.

"(Subcommittee members) are going to have to work with each other," he said.

Thomlison also will introduce a resolution protesting Gov. Ben Nelson's proposed budget, which calls for an across-the-board cut of 2 percent for all state agencies, including the University of Nebraska.

Thomlison said he thought Nelson's budget was "beyond terrible." During Gov. Kay Orr's administration, Thomlison said, the University of Nebraska made great gains in the budget.

"I don't want to see a slide down from where we were able to achieve," he said.

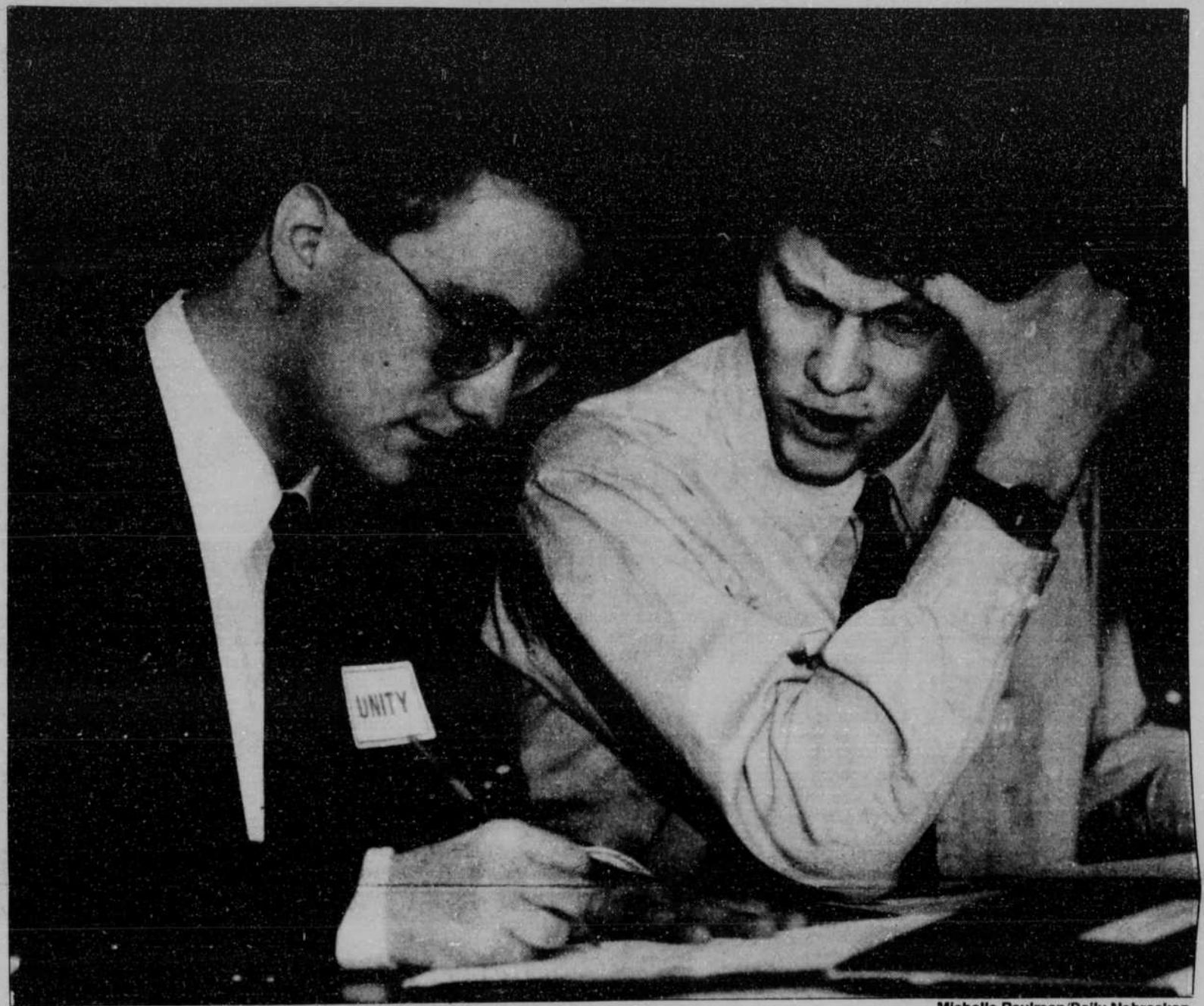
Thomlison said he understood that cuts need to be made, but that "the last cut that you make is education."

In other action, the senate will look at a bylaw amendment that would restructure ASUN's Appointments Board.

ASUN President Phil Gosch said the board would be restructured to "remove any year-to-year political influence."

He said there was concern that the speaker of the senate, who chairs the board, and the second vice president,

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Michelle Paulman/Daily Nebraskan

Andy Massey, right, UNITY's presidential candidate, and Bill Jacobs, a UNITY senatorial candidate, prepare notes during the ASUN election debate Tuesday in the East Union.

Candidates debate student regent vote

By Kristie Coda
Staff Reporter

Executive candidates for the Association of Students of the University of Nebraska wrangled over the proper method for getting better student input into university governance in a debate Tuesday.

UNITY presidential candidate Andy Massey said it would be hard to get a voting student regent this year.

"It will take more than one year," Massey said, adding that the NU regents are against it.

"I don't know if the Nebraska community wants that; I think the

students do," he said.

Massey said that getting a student on a university advisory board for the Nebraska Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education might be a more realistic goal and likely would be better received than fighting for a voting student regent.

ENERGY presidential candidate J. Matt Wickless also said legislation providing for a voting student regent was unlikely to be passed this year because of legislative politics.

Now is "not a proper time to act on that," he said.

CHANGE candidates disagreed, saying they were confident there

would be a voting student regent, even if it took a few years.

"We can't let that issue be dropped again," said Matt McKeever, CHANGE presidential candidate. He said UNITY was counting on a coordinating commission advisory board that does not yet exist.

The candidates also responded to questions on budget cuts proposed in the Legislature that may affect student services at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

McKeever said students shouldn't have to put up with such cuts.

Active lobbying of the Legislature could keep cuts to a minimum,

McKeever said.

Lynn Kister, first vice presidential candidate for CHANGE, said it was the job of ASUN's Government Liaison Committee to make sure cuts don't occur.

Massey said he agreed with NU President Martin Massengale that ensuring that faculty members are taken care of is a priority.

"My No. 1 concern is to keep faculty members here," Massey said.

Wickless said cutting programs that benefit only a small number of students may be a way to deal with budget constraints.

"If we are forced to make cuts,

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Arab students: Cease-fire won't bring Mideast peace

By Dionne Searcey
Staff Reporter

The end of the war against Iraq does not mean the Middle East will be at peace, two Arab students said at a Persian Gulf forum in the Nebraska Union on Tuesday.

Nadeem Yousif, a University of Nebraska-Lincoln doctoral candidate in English from Iraq, said the Middle East will never be peaceful because allied actions after World War I ensured continued strife.

The Middle East was one entity before World War I, he said.

After World War I, he said, the allies "carved the Arab world up" and established boundaries between coun-

tries such as Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Iraq and Palestine.

Arabs must present visas to officials when traveling between countries, Yousif said, and nations don't help each other out in times of economic hardships.

"I love the U.S.A. It is great," he said. "There are no frontiers. No one will ask you for your passport. If one state needs oil they can get it from Texas. Some (Arab) countries don't even sell fruit to neighboring countries."

Yousif said the allies knew that dividing the Middle East would keep the area in permanent conflict. The

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WEDNESDAY



Women's Issues Week explores myths, rights and poetry of women. Page 5.

The International Bazaar celebrates its sixth birthday with food and crafts. Page 8.

"Theatrix" group stages unconventional, topical performances. Page 9.

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Lawmakers move ahead on minimum wage bill

By Lisa Donovan
Senior Reporter

Despite some senators' contention that a bill to increase the minimum wage would be unfair to some small businesses, lawmakers advanced legislation Tuesday that would boost the current \$3.35 hourly wage by 90 cents.

The Nebraska Legislature advanced on a 27-3 vote to the final round of debate LB297, a bill that would raise Nebraska's minimum wage to \$4.25 on July 1.

State Sen. Tim Hall of Omaha, the bill's sponsor, said it's tough to argue that certain seasonal businesses could

be hurt by the bill.

"I also would say that the minimum wage as portrayed in this bill at \$4.25 is not an excessive amount of money," Hall said.

State Sen. George Coordsen of Hebron introduced an amendment to the bill that would call for phasing in the minimum wage increase to \$3.80 an hour on July 1, 1991, and boost it to \$4.25 on April 1,



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