

# Daily Nebraskan

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University of Nebraska-Lincoln

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## TODAY'S WEATHER

Partly sunny today with a high around 60. Mostly clear tonight with a low of 35-40. Tuesday, partly sunny with the high 65-70.

## Official says faculty eyes unionization

By Dionne Searcey  
Senior Editor

Concerns that UNL faculty members will not receive a fair shake during salary negotiations have prompted talks of unionization, a university official said Sunday.

George Tuck, Academic Senate president, said University of Nebraska-Lincoln faculty members are "feeling nervous" about losing salary raises to unionized campuses and have discussed collective bargaining efforts.

The University of Nebraska at Omaha and the future University of Nebraska at Kearney, both of which are unionized, collectively bargained for salary raises in April. The NU Board of Regents approved salary raises of 6.5 percent for UNO and 8.7 percent for UNK, which will join the University of Nebraska system July 1.

Because UNL doesn't have a collective bargaining arrangement, faculty salary increases will not be decided until the Nebraska Legislature approves the NU budget. The UNL Academic Senate in April requested a 10-percent salary increase, Tuck said.

In past years, he said, UNL always has received raises slightly higher than those gained by UNO.

But now, UNL faculty members fear budget constraints will hinder their hopes for the 10-percent raise, which has spurred talks of unionizing, Tuck said. The Academic Senate is not advocating a union, he said.

Faculty members have resisted unionizing in the past. In 1976, the American Association of University Professors proposed to serve as a collective bargaining unit for UNL, but was defeated in a vote of 634 to 503, Tuck said.

Last week, the Legislature's Appropriations Committee proposed a \$10.6 million allocation to UNO, UNK, UNL and the University of Nebraska Medical Center for salary raises. The money may be distributed in different ways, Tuck said.

University central administration might take money from UNL and UNMC to fund salaries of the two unionized schools. If this happens, UNL would be better off unionized, he said.

"We're not attacking UNO or Kearney. They negotiated. They did it fair and square. They got the salary increases they bargained for," Tuck said. "Obviously we'd like to have more money, but we don't want to have to take money from one of our sister institutions."

But the unionizing process could take months, he said, and would require faculty votes and other lengthy procedures.

Dividing the proposed \$10.6 million evenly among the campuses would result in a 4-percent salary increase for each campus, Tuck said.

Individual campuses would then have to fund the remaining salary increase from within their own institutions, he said, which could mean program or staff cuts.

Tuck said central administration also could take money from UNMC and UNO to help bring faculty salaries at the Kearney and Lincoln campuses closer to those of peer institutions.

"It just depends upon who they want to make unhappy," he said.



Shaun Sartin/Daily Nebraskan

Jack Scherbak displays his insulating aluminum can panel outside of his Lincoln home.

## Insulation or art?

### Inventor finding new uses for aluminum cans

By Wendy Navratil  
Senior Reporter

A former University of Nebraska-Lincoln student has combined ecology, art and architecture in his latest invention: aluminum-can panels that can be used to insulate buildings or to build pyramid-shaped sculptures.

Jack Scherbak, who has a U.S. patent on a roach trap, said he has received some positive feedback on his two-tiered aluminum can concept.

Recycling experts, artists, architects and engineers have acknowledged both the invention's practical architectural use and artistic potential, he said.

To use the invention as either insulation or sculpture, aluminum cans are first filled with popped popcorn or shredded paper. The tops of the cans are then dipped in an adhesive and stuck, in tightly packed rows, to a plastic foam or other material backing. The backing is cut differently depending on the intended use of the layer of cans.

"You don't have to use Styrofoam, 'cause it's kind of on the hit list for ecology," Scherbak said.

If the cans are going to be used to insulate buildings, two rectangular layers are placed back to back to form one wall of insulation.

"It won't be more effective in insulating than other conventional methods of insulating, but the metal will conduct heat. Pop-

corn does act as an insulator, but with the metal around it, it's not as effective," Scherbak said.

On the outside layers, the cans are coated with a caulk-like adhesive to seal out the elements. The interior layers can be covered either with Sheetrock, Masonite or left exposed.

"If they're left exposed on the outside, they act as sort of a solar panel to collect heat. On the inside, the wall of cans can absorb the heat so it is retained within the building."

"The World Peace Center asked if I would be interested in constructing this for their center. But they wanted to leave the cans exposed to show the recyclable, functional aspect as well as for the aesthetic appeal — kind of for advertising ecology or recycling," Scherbak said.

Scherbak inventor

successfully undertake any major project using the can concept, there are some bureaucratic barriers to overcome.

"It's like knocking on a revolving door. Everyone agrees that it (the can concept) has some kind of value, but with the bureaucratic types of ladders, it's hard to pin down," he said.

Scherbak said that building widespread public awareness and support for the method ideally would provide him with the momentum to tackle some of his larger-scale projects.

But for now, he said, he is concentrating on generating enthusiasm at a local level for his invention by focusing on the artistic element of the can concept.

Scherbak proposes holding a race, perhaps between Lincoln and Omaha, to see which city could construct four sides of an aluminum can pyramid 3 1/2 stories high.

The pyramid could be constructed in a park or along Interstate 80 as a tourist attraction or as a monument to the ecological awareness movement, Scherbak said.

The structure, about 50 feet in height, could have a checkerboard appearance, achieved by alternating the cans with clear plastic so viewers could see in the pyramid, he said. The floor inside the pyramid would also be composed of cans.

"It could be a real interesting art form."

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## Policy change puts DN in new Capitol cubicles

By Jeremy Fitzpatrick  
Senior Reporter

The Daily Nebraskan will again be distributed in the State Capitol after a brief absence, state officials and newspaper representatives decided Friday.

Last Wednesday, Larry Primeau, director of the Department of Administrative Services at the Capitol, ordered that the Daily Nebraskan no longer be distributed in the Capitol.

The decision had followed the

publication of a joke issue in the April 29 issue of the Daily Nebraskan, but Primeau said the decision was not an attempt to ban the newspaper.

Primeau said that prior to the removal of the paper, there had been no policy for the dissemination of free publications.

"You have to have some sort of policy — not to close things off, but to open them up," he said.

Under the new policy, the Daily

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## MONDAY

Medical procedure could force President Bush to shift power briefly to Vice President Quayle. Page 2.

Pottery tradition must be passed down through family, not school, according to a pottery exhibitor at Morrill Hall. Page 6.

Nebraska baseball team splits weekend series with Iowa State. Page 10.

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## Student representation ASUN's goal for summer

By Adeana Leftin  
Senior Reporter

The last bell may have rung for classes this semester, but ASUN will be spending the summer doing its homework for next fall.

Andy Massey, Association of Students of the University of Nebraska president, said the Government Liaison Committee will lobby

the Nebraska Legislature this summer to get higher faculty salaries and a more generous budget for the university.

"We can't let off on lobbying," he said.

ASUN also will push for student input on the Nebraska Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education, he said.

For several weeks, ASUN has been encouraging Gov. Ben Nelson to appoint a student to the 11-member commission, and asking students to

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