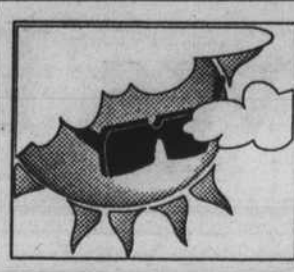


Daily Nebraskan



TODAY'S WEATHER

68/35

Today, mostly sunny and warmer. Tonight, clear. Wednesday, mostly sunny, high in the mid-60s.

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Brad Simmons/DN

Georgia Congressman Ben Jones talks about his battle to stay sober Monday night at "Do It Sober IX" at the Lied Center for Performing Arts.

Sobering experience

'Dukes of Hazzard' star warns of dangers of alcohol

By Stacey McKenzie
Senior Editor

One role Georgia Congressman Ben Jones learned he couldn't play during his early acting career was that of an alcoholic.

Jones, who is known for his role as "Cooter" on the "Dukes of Hazzard" television series, told of his personal bout with alcoholism and the benefits of sobriety to a crowd of about 2,000 people at "Do It Sober IX" Monday night at the Lied Center for Performing Arts.

Before being elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1988, Jones won his campaign despite having his alcoholism revealed by his opponent.

"I've got more skeletons in my closet than the Smithsonian Institute," Jones told a crowd during his congressional campaign. "That's because my name is Ben, and I'm

an alcoholic."

Jones said these skeletons began to form when he was a teenager. Growing up with an alcoholic father, fostered feelings of inferiority and insecurity, he said. At age 15, he tried to cope with these feelings by getting drunk.

"I've got more skeletons in my closet than the Smithsonian Institute."

Jones
congressman

The skeletons grew for 20 years, Jones said, during which time he drank continually.

After high school, Jones worked odd jobs until attending the Uni-

versity of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where he became involved in politics and acting. He also continued drinking.

"For the alcoholic, one drink is too many and a thousand isn't enough," he said.

After college, Jones said, he worked in stage and film, but this work didn't keep his life from falling apart. He married three times, divorced twice and was thrown in jail about 20 times for alcohol-related incidents.

On Sept. 25, 1977, Jones said he hit bottom. He laid on the floor of his house with "the DT's," or delirium tremors.

Jones said he knew he was dying. "I said, 'Oh please God, help me.'" He went to a recovery center and hasn't had a drink since.

See SPEECH on 3

Officials, students say classics elimination wrong move for UNL

By Kara Morrison
Staff Reporter

The elimination of the classics department — the most profitable and efficient department in the College of Arts and Sciences — would not be in UNL's best interest, students and officials told the Budget Reduction Review Committee Monday.

The BRRC is hearing testimony on proposed cuts as part of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's 3 percent budget-reduction process. This budget cut was mandated by the Nebraska Legislature last spring.

John Peters, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, said the classics department is one of only four departments in the College of Arts and Sciences that was profitable in 1990-91. The second most profitable, he said, was the speech department.

Peters said the classics department

was an "efficient user of resources" with an operating expense budget of less than \$3,000.

Valdis Leinieks, chair of the Department of Classics, said one-third of UNL students take a classics course to fulfill a humanities requirement.

Michael Hoff, assistant professor of art and art history, said many students and faculty would be inconvenienced by the elimination of the classics department.

Other departments are already overloaded with students in their humanities classes, he said.

Chairs and professors from the departments of English, history, modern languages and art and art history also expressed concern that the elimination of the classics department would affect the College of Arts and Sciences and the quality of education at UNL.

These professors said they depended on the knowledge of the classics department and its research library to assist them in their studies.

See BUDGET on 3

Floor reaches accord with RHA, hall leaders

Issues still pushed by Selleck 5300

By Michael Hannon
Staff Reporter

After a meeting between delegates of the 5300 floor of Selleck Quadrangle and the Selleck president, the residence hall complex is no longer divided.

At a meeting Sunday, M.S. Wicklund, one of five delegates elected by the 5300 floor, said the floor is still committed to the issues that prompted its claim of secession but now wishes to work within the Selleck and Residence Hall Association governments.

The floor no longer wishes to secede from RHA, Wicklund said.

The residents of floor 5300 had previously requested the resignation of the Selleck Quadrangle executive board and adviser, but Wicklund said the floor has dropped that demand.

Rob York, president of Selleck Quadrangle government, said, "I think all hard feelings will be put aside."

York, a senior biology and chemistry major, said he is glad the 5300 floor is now willing to work with him and the Selleck government.

Wicklund, a political science and sociology major, said the floor succeeded in its attempt to bring its problems to the attention of the Selleck government and the RHA.

Wicklund said he now hopes to form a "coalition" between graduate and undergraduate students in Selleck Quadrangle.

"I want to make sure that both sides are validated so that this is a no-lose situation," Wicklund said.

York said he supports the efforts of graduate and non-traditional students to achieve greater representation.

York said he will work for a change in the Selleck constitution that would require one of the hall's two senators be a graduate or non-traditional student.

In another effort to increase Selleck's graduate and non-traditional student representation, York said he has established a graduate and non-traditional special interest committee.

Wicklund said he will continue to seek graduate and non-traditional student representation on the University of Nebraska Board of Regents.

The delegates and York also agreed to organize social events to bring graduate and non-traditional students together with undergraduate students.

Amy Manbeck, another delegate of the 5300 floor, said social interaction could correct undergraduates' misconceptions of graduate students.

Graduate students often are seen as people who study constantly and don't socialize, said Manbeck, a graduate agronomy student.

TUESDAY

Senators remain perplexed.
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Derek Brown had a good day in Stillwater. Page 5

Nighthawks play sweaty blues at the Zoo. Page 6

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Construction hit by budget squeeze

By Wendy Navratil
Senior Reporter

The trickle-down effect of budget cuts has manifested itself in the elimination of eight to 10 positions in the UNL facilities management department.

Rich McDermott, director of facilities management at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, said positions in the department's in-house construction division would be identified for elimination this week.

BUDGET CUTS

"The in-house construction division is overstaffed and must be reduced," McDermott said. "The feeling from top to bottom is we wish we didn't have to, but when you're faced with a deficit you can't cover, you're left with no other choice."

McDermott said the division is much like an independent contracting business in that it is not financed by the university. For its profits, the division relies on requisitions for minor renovation services from different UNL departments.

Having faced diminishing budgets in recent years, those UNL departments have shelved minor renovations, called renewal and adaption

projects, for their facilities, McDermott said.

With fewer requests for service, the construction division profits have turned into deficits and the staff has run short of work.

McDermott said the deficit in the division was more than \$100,000 last year.

"This is a trend we've followed for a long time," he said. "Last year, we ran some red ink in (in-house construction). We covered it. There's no way we can cover it this year."

The department notified all employees Oct. 4 that some positions would have to be eliminated. Last week, supervisors and staff worked

together to narrow the list of positions that might be cut.

"We're trying to use a participative approach," he said.

The employees on the list of positions to be cut were notified at the end of last week. They will meet today to discuss the cuts.

By the end of the week, McDermott said, the positions to be eliminated would be determined.

"The requirements say that we must give them two weeks notice, but we're going to extend the notice for as long as the recharge work (from departments) will support them," he said.

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