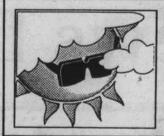
Nebraskan



TODAY'S WEATHER

63/30

Today, partly cloudy. To-night, cloudy with a 40 percent chance of rain or snow late. Friday, a 40 percent chance of rain or snow. High in the low 40s.

Vol. 91 No. 63

Lobbying group requests investigation

By Wendy Navratil Senior Reporter

ommon Cause/Nebraska asked Attorney General Don Stenberg to investigate whether the Board of Regents and UNL have violated state open meetings laws Monday

As of Wednesday, the group had received no response from Stenberg, and the attorney general's office re-ported that he had not looked into the matter yet.

Bill Avery, a University of Ne-

fessor and a spokesman for Common tion of rendering a legal opinion, but Cause, said the group drafted a reneither is (NU General Counsel) Dick quest that Stenberg look into the Budget Reduction Review and Academic Planning committees' policies of closing some of their meetings over budget reduction proposals early last

Avery said the regents general affairs subcommittee meeting that was held in private late last week compounded the urgency of resolving the issue of whether laws were being violated.

"Stenberg is obligated to look into

Wood."

Avery said that Common Cause/ Nebraska, which is part of a national grassroots organization that lobbies for the public interest, was not satisfied with the legal opinion of Wood. Wood's opinion upheld the legality of the closed meetings being held by the regents subcommittee and the BRRC and APC

Avery said Wood could not render an impartial opinion as an employee of the university.

chemistry education, curriculum and instruction and a BRRC and APC member, said he was against holding meetings of the BRRC in closed ses-

But his objection is not based on the state open meetings law, he said.

It has to do with the purpose of an academic institution - teaching, openness. I don't think you can have a meeting of 22 people and call for confidentiality. I'm a democrat. I believe they should make it public."

Brooks said the meetings would David Brooks, a UNL professor of merit closure to the public only if the

"specifics of a specific case" were being discussed. Because he doesn't think this has been the case, he has abstained from voting to go into closed

Regent Charles Wilson of Lincoln said he thought that the regents would have been sensitized to closing meetings after receiving criticism for its conduct in recent years.

'I intend to address this issue at least in a one-on-one way with my colleagues. I think we all need to recommit ourselves to adhering to the spirit as well as to the letter of the

braska-Lincoln political science pro- it," Avery said. "I'm not in the posi-Official makes plea for sparing classics program

Budget cut committee

cramps time schedule

By Jeremy Fitzpatrick Senior Reporter

rguments that the Department of Classics is not cost-effective are absurd, the department chairman told the Budget Reduction Review Committee in a final plea Wednesday.

"How do such absurd calculations come out? They come out when people try manipulate

numbers to prove what cannot be proven," Valdis Leinieks said.

Leinieks spent most of his testimony attempting to refute an evaluation of classics by Stan Liberty, interim vice chancellor for academic affairs.

Liberty recommended cutting the program as part of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's budget-cutting process. Cuts of 3 percent over the next two years were mandated by the Legislature last spring.

But cutting classics doesn't make sense, Leinieks said.

The vice chancellor didn't think, and didn't think of the consequences and didn't look at the evidence," he

He argued that three criticisms of the department - that its entry level classes are too large, that it does not undertake quality research and that its resource allocation is not being used efficiently — are misguided.
"Small classes are not always the

best," he said. "Trained instructors in large classes are better than a small one with untrained professors.'

The department's faculty are qualified, he said. Three of six professors in the department have received distinguished teaching awards in the past 10 years, and all six have finished or are finishing books this year.

He called Liberty's analysis of the department's resource allocation 'complete nonsense.'

In addition, Leinieks said, if clas-

See BUDGET on 3

Anna Quindlen, columnist for The New York Times, speaks at the Cornhusker Hotel

Teachers forced for proposed University of Nebraska-Lincoln budget cuts. to delay tasks The budget cuts are in response to Family affair a Nebraska Legislature mandate that the university cut 3 percent of its budget over the next two years. Desmond Wheeler, a professor of By Kara Morrison Staff Reporter

chemistry and member of the BRRC, said that about 70 hours of hearings took place in October alone.

In addition to the hearings and meetings scheduled through December, a significant amount of preparation time is required, Wheeler said.

"There are mountains of letters and statements to be read," he said.

Rita Kean, interim department

See BRRC on 3

been reviewing and hearing appeals THURSDAY

a week to fulfill.

Soviets get food aid. Page 2

ince budget-cutting procedures

began in September, 25 UNL

faculty and staff members have

In addition to their regular sched-

had a lot less of one resource: time.

ules, some members of the Budget

Reduction Review Committee esti-

mate that their BRRC duties, which

are unpaid, are taking about 25 hours

These committee members have

ASUN planning committee gets OK. Page 3

The bare facts about nudity.

Linden thinks of protests. Page 7



Speaker says moms and dads must work together By Stacey McKenzie

Tew York Times columnist and author Anna Quindlen told a crowd of about 500 people at the Cornhusker hotel that the family has changed in the last 20 years "but not enough to make it work."

Quindlen spoke at the 100th anniversary celebration of Lincoln's Family Service, a private, non-profit human service organization.

Issues of the family are at the forefront of many of Quindlen's "Public & Private" columns. She is also the author of a collection of essays called "Living Out

Although society has changed and sometimes improved laws and institutions in an effort to

help families, Quindlen said, it hasn't changed the way that men, women and children deal with each other.

"What we need is radical change in the entire way that men, women and children live together," she said. "We need to understand each other better.'

A mother can face confusion, crying on the first day that she returns to work because she has to leave her children, Quindlen said. Yet, the educated woman who stays home with her children can face frustration because she is afraid her brain might turn to

Quindlen, a mother of three and the second woman to write a column for the New York Times opinion page, has faced this career/mother dichotomy.

When she was 25, Quindlen said she would never have children.

At that time, she said, "I would have walked over my grandmother in golf spikes to do

two columns a week."
The New York Times
granted her wish in 1981 when she began writing a column called "About New York."

Then Quindlen became pregnant with her first child. She announced to her editor that she needed six months of maternity leave and later told the editor that, "I wouldn't be back."

The paper made certain allow-ances, though. With the addition of each child, Quindlen's job adjusted to the point where she now writes many of her columns at

See QUINDLEN on 2