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UNL, NCAA in stalemate over scholarships

NCAA awaits word from Nebraska

Chambers not sorry about state law

By Susie Arth
Senior Reporter

The NCAA and the Nebraska athletic department seem to be caught in a stalemate following the hype produced by a Nebraska state law that conflicts with an NCAA regulation.

LB69, which went into effect June 1, requires student-athletes who qualify for any need-based aid to receive the full amount.

But the NCAA limits the number of football scholarships schools may give out to 92 at a time. That scholarship limit covers all need-based aid, except Pell Grants and student loans.

Dan Dutcher, director of legislative services for the NCAA, said the NCAA was sitting back and waiting for the University of Nebraska-Lincoln to make the next move.

"As far as I'm aware," he said, "the interpretation is already in existence."

It's clear the Nebraska law conflicts with NCAA rules, he said.

But he said the NCAA probably would steer clear of the conflict unless another university or UNL gave them a reason to address it.

The NCAA could penalize Nebraska, Dutcher said, if complaints are filed by other universities.

Other schools may complain if they believe Nebraska is receiving an unfair recruiting advantage by exceeding the allotted 92 scholarships, he said.

Dutcher said the NCAA also could take action if the violation was reported by the Nebraska athletic department.

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By Chuck Green
Senior Reporter

Despite placing the Nebraska athletic department in the awkward position of having to choose between NCAA regulations and state law, State Sen. Ernie Chambers said he had no regrets about LB69.

The bill, introduced by Chambers in February 1991, requires the University of Nebraska-Lincoln to allow all athletes eligible for need-based financial aid to receive it. LB69 took effect June 1.

However, NCAA regulations prohibit universities from having more than 92 football players on scholarship at a time. All need-based aid, except Pell Grants and student loans, counts as a scholarship.

Chambers said he introduced the legislation

with the best interests of the student-athletes in mind.

"My concern never has been for the NCAA, the Big Eight Conference or the Nebraska athletic department, but rather for the young men who play the game," Chambers said. "I think it's an unethical, immoral position to lure young, impoverished men to the institution where they won't be able to survive financially."

"They're treated like meat... rather than the students and human beings they are."

Chambers said the bill was meant to ensure that non-scholarship athletes would be able to receive financial aid while participating in football.

One result, however, is that four Cornhusker walk-on players — if they accept the financial

See CHAMBERS on 3



Robin Trimarchi/DN

"Any woman in my position has seen the struggles too many women have faced of being fully able to enter into the professional life, while juggling other roles and expectations that society has placed on her," said Linda Pratt, head of the American Association of University Professors.

Academic rights

UNL professor works for educators' freedom

By Juliet Yenglin
Staff Reporter

Wedged in the cracks of education, Linda Pratt is constantly in pursuit of fairness and guided by a deep desire to express the worth of teaching and learning.

The U.S. education system has the opportunity to take advantage of the experience and talents of Pratt, who began a two-year term in June as national president of the American Association of Univer-

sity Professors.

Pratt, an English professor, came to UNL in 1968. She teaches Victorian and early modern poetry.

She strives to ignite the imagination of her students, she said, and has accepted her latest challenge to retain academic freedom for educators throughout the United States.

Pratt is the third woman in a row

to be president of the AAUP and the first woman from a Midwestern university.

Being a leader — and a woman — in higher education has made her more sensitive to issues affecting people who lack power in the system, she said.

"I think any woman in academia who has had her eyes open has seen the problems that other women have had," Pratt said, "whether she has had them herself or not."

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Regents set to approve billion-dollar NU budget

By Andy Raun
Staff Reporter

The NU Board of Regents is expected to give final approval today to an operating budget request of nearly \$1 billion for each of the next two fiscal years.

The budget request represents the amount of money university administrators think will be needed to operate the University of Nebraska at a level modestly exceeding the current one, said Joe Rowson, director of public affairs.

Administrators and the regents have been working for several months to formulate the proposal, Rowson said.

"This is kind of the final sign-off" on the request, he said.

All state agencies are required to submit their budget requests by Sept. 15, Rowson said.

About 30 percent of NU's total funding would come from the state under the terms of the regents' request. The state would provide \$305.2 million for 1993-94 and \$317.3 million for the following year.

Tuition, revenue from University

Hospital at the University of Nebraska Medical Center, federal funds and money from other sources provide the rest.

The budget figures — \$974.97 million for 1993-94 and \$999.96 million for 1994-95 — do not take into consideration possible employee pay increases. The Nebraska Legislature, which must determine the actual state budget appropriation for the university, is expected to consider pay increases for NU employees and the other state agencies later.

Gov. Ben Nelson and legislators have said significant budget cuts for all state agencies might be necessary to compensate for a state revenue shortfall. But reductions in the university budget would have to be made at the legislative level, Rowson said.

In addition to approving the operating budget request, the regents are expected to approve making a supplemental budget request of \$1.66 million for the next two-year period for the University of Nebraska at Kearney.

The regents will vote on a proposal to make a capital construction budget request of nearly \$19 million for 1993-94 and \$22.27 million for 1994-95. Another vote will be taken to approve requesting \$2.54 million from the state for projects under the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Officials say new name not linked to homophobia

By Susie Arth
Senior Reporter

The name of an English course focusing on gay and lesbians literature has been changed, not as a homophobic reaction, but to clarify the class' content, an official said.

Stephen Hilliard, chairman of the English department, said the description of English 210B Sex Roles in Literature would be more accurate with the subtitle Gay and Lesbian Literature. The course will not change, he said, only the name.

"We wanted to ensure truth in packaging," he said.

George Wolf, an associate professor of English and instructor of the course for the 1993 spring semester, said the name change would serve two purposes.

Students who don't want to study gay and lesbian literature will not be surprised to learn the focus of the class, and students who want to take a

course in gay and lesbian literature will be able to identify it in the "Schedule of Classes," he said.

Hilliard said he was unaware of any students who objected to the material read in the class, and said the name was changed only to avoid confusion.

The subtitle will be added in the "Schedule of Classes" but not in students' transcripts, he said.

Some students fear the new name will not appeal to future employers viewing their transcripts, Hilliard said.

Wolf said he believed this was a legitimate fear.

"It's a very important issue given the fact that we live in a homophobic society," he said.

The English department circulated a memo about the change so instructors would be prepared to answer any questions from people with objections, Hilliard said.

Department members have a right

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