



OPINION

SPORTS

NU women take on Colorado



FRIDAY
35/25
Today sunny and mild, becoming cloudy and windy tonight and a 30% chance of snow. Tomorrow cloudy and 35 degrees

Baldwin case prompts senator's proposal

Bill would give state judges more authority

By Chuck Green
Senior Reporter

Proposals introduced Wednesday in the Nebraska Legislature would loosen restraints on state judges dealing with criminal cases involving the mentally ill, the bills' sponsor said.

sponsor said.



Legislature

Sen. Don Wesely of Lincoln introduced LB518 in an attempt to give the courts more authority over those found not guilty for crimes by reason of insanity. Wesely said his proposal was inspired by the case of Andrew Scott Baldwin, a former University of Nebraska-Lincoln student and Cornhusker football player.

Baldwin was shot last Sept. 5 by Omaha police officers during what doctors determined to be his second psychotic episode in nine months.

"I'm hoping this legislation will prevent that scenario from ever occurring again," Wesely said.

Baldwin, 23, from Roselle, N.J., was charged with the Jan. 18, 1992, assaults of Gina Simanek Mountain and Lincoln Police Officer Greg Sims. He later was found not guilty by reason of insanity when psychiatrists determined the attacks were caused by a psychotic episode.

"I'm hoping this legislation will prevent that scenario from ever occurring again."

—Wesely
state senator

Money needed for program to stay afloat

The state of Nebraska has not kept promise, project director says

By Jeff Zeleny
Senior Reporter

An effort to improve education in Nebraska's elementary and high schools has been underway for only a year, but it may be cut short if funds once promised for the project don't come through.

A program initiated by the Nebraska Mathematics and Science Coalition in 1991 was designed to improve math and science education in all Nebraska schools.



Legislature

Partial funding for the program was provided through a grant from the National Science Foundation in Washington D.C.

The grant was supposed to be matched with state funds more than a year ago, but no money has been allotted yet.

"The state of Nebraska made the promise for significant support — it was a letter of good intent," Karen Ward, coalition project director, said.

"At this point all we have is good intent, we haven't gotten any money from them," she said.

Sen. Ron Withem of Papillion, chairman of the education committee, introduced LB649 Wednesday. The bill would appropriate legislative funds to pay for the state's portion of the grant.

Withem's proposal would appropriate \$2 million for the project in the next two years.

If Nebraska doesn't match the amount, the foundation will look down on giving future grants, Ward said.

"If the Legislature hasn't done something definitive, as far as getting us \$2 million for the first grant, there is no way the NSF will look favorably on requests."

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Changes considered to boost residence hall appeal

By Jeffrey Robb
Staff Reporter

In an effort to stave off a decline in the number of students signing on for spaces in UNL residence halls, the Office of University Housing is considering several measures to draw in more upperclassmen, a university official said.

Doug Zatechka, university housing director, said residence hall population dropped 11 percent in the last six years because students were moving off campus earlier.

He said better communication was needed between students and housing officials to find out exactly what students, and especially upperclassmen, would value in the halls. Toward that end, a special workshop of housing administrators, residence directors and student assistants was held last Sunday to work through

Plans geared toward attracting upperclassmen

ideas and coordinate plans.

Zatechka said four main ideas were being considered to boost residence hall appeal:

- make parking lots larger and closer to the halls.
 - configure meal plans so food service could be provided later in the afternoon or evening. Zatechka said many students suggested this because class schedules often run through meal times.
 - hold costs down.
 - designate halls housing only upperclassmen. These halls would provide more privacy, with mostly single rooms for occupants.
- "We have upperclassmen who have a strong desire for privacy, like not having a roommate, for example," Zatechka said.
- Tiffani Walvoord, a senior anthropology

major, has lived in an apartment throughout college. She said she thought residence halls were too crowded, noisy and expensive. Privacy and freedom are the main advantages of her apartment, she said.

Privacy is also a factor in why Justin Tumblin, a junior psychology major, lives off campus. He said his house offered privacy that residence halls couldn't give.

Zatechka said residence halls had been improved in the last five years to cater to students. Cable television, computer laboratories and 24-hour visitation have been added, but more is needed, he said.

Jim Hill, a Cather Hall student assistant, said another idea proposed was to take a portion of students' unused meal money and apply it to snack-bar use. Hill said a price discount for

students who live in the halls three or more semesters also was discussed.

Zatechka said problems could arise in trying to fit such proposals into the housing budget. But he said if the plans were examined, and were found to be affordable and of student value, then the plan could move forward.

However, Zatechka stressed that possible improvements must be of student value. A survey was held last year to determine if 24-hour visitation rules would influence students to staying in the halls because of the new measure, Zatechka said, but residence hall population went down this year despite the plan.

"I don't want to spend a lot of money and a lot of time and find out nobody cares," he said.

Zatechka said there was no timetable for when any new plans may be implemented.



Jeff Haller/DN

Cool place to study

Wendy Freeman, a senior electrical engineering major, studies Thursday in a spot she cleared of snow near 16th and Vine streets. Freeman, who was waiting to meet a friend, said she enjoyed the winter weather.

East Campus college plans big changes

By Mindy Leiter
Staff Reporter

This semester the College of Home Economics will make some changes, including a merger, a new department director and an anticipated name change, a UNL official said.

Karen Craig, dean of the College of Home Economics, said the college was combining the Department of Human Development and the Family and the Department of Consumer Science and Education to create the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences.

In addition, Craig said, the College of Home Economics is anticipating a name change, already approved by the NU Board of Regents and pending approval in March by the Nebraska Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education.

The proposed name, College of Human Resources and Family Sciences, better suits the college's goal of finding new ways to serve families and communities, Craig said.

"We want to move away from the cooking and sewing perspective that most people hold," Craig said. "The faculty wants to operate within a 21st-century framework."

Such a framework, she said, will include dealing with all aspects of modern family life.

"We need to help individuals and families and communities deal with critical issues in a responsible way, so they can act."

Craig said those issues involved single parenting, youth at risk, financial problems and the lack of rural businesses in small communities.

Streamlining departments is one way the college will deal with these issues, Craig said.

Raedene Combs, a professor of consumer science and education, and

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