

Daily Nebraskan

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University of Nebraska-Lincoln

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DIGEST
Croatia's surprise attack

SPORTS
NU wrestling falls one match short of title

MONDAY

33/20
Today, partly sunny.
Tonight, partly cloudy.
Tuesday, partly sunny and warmer.

State Coalition lobbys senators to strike bills

Abortion rights advocate calls trust the real issue

By Steve Smith
Senior Editor

Abortion rights advocates came together Friday at the State Capitol to let Nebraskans know they believe they stand for the majority opinion, and then scattered throughout the statehouse to lobby state senators.

The second annual abortion rights lobby day, sponsored by the 23-member Pro-Choice Coalition of Nebraska, drew about 200 supporters, who stood holding a 30-foot banner that read "Pro-Choice Coalition of Nebraska: The majority speaks."

"Trust, or an absence of trust, is the real issue here today," said coalition president Sharon Rowe. She referred to several bills introduced in the Legislature that could restrict a woman's chance to have an abortion.

Rowe urged that three bills—LB110, LB156 and LB660—be struck down by state senators.

LB110 would require physicians to discuss the development of the fetus with a woman seeking to abort a pregnancy, she said. LB156 is a proposal to prohibit the use of public facilities and funds for abortions, and LB660 would eliminate a duty for school districts to provide certain information relating to abortion.

"Proponents of these measures suggest we need protection from ourselves," Rowe said. "These proposals reflect anti-choice views toward women that say we can't be trusted."

Rowe reiterated the theme of the lobby day by asking lawmakers and citizens alike to put their trust in Nebraskan women.

"Women prove daily that we are no less trustworthy than men. We are judges, laborers, transportation workers and even legislators," Rowe said. "We are trusted to legislate others, but not ourselves."

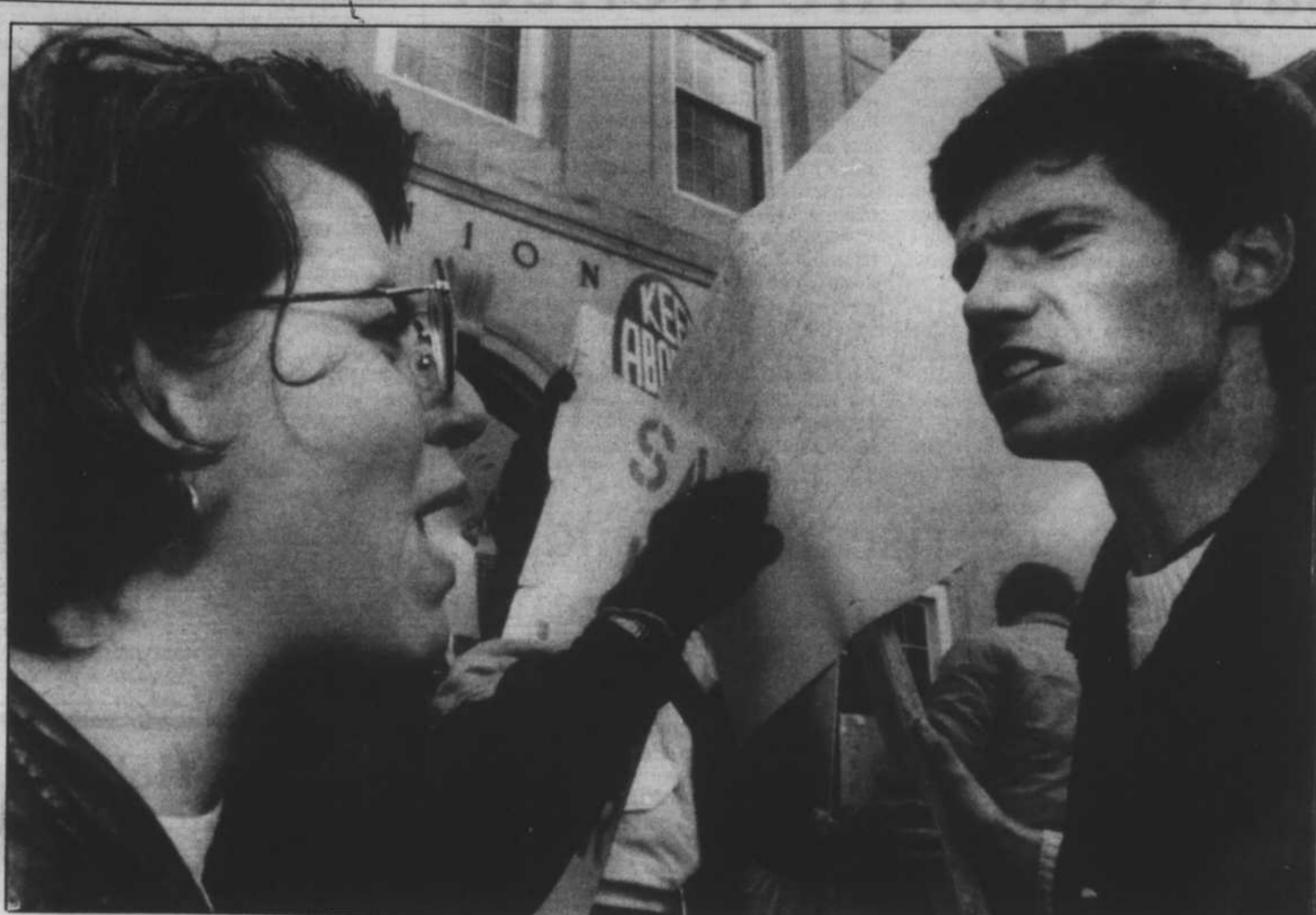
"Trust the women in the state of Nebraska. We can—and we will—decide."

The rally coincided with the 20th anniversary of the monumental Roe vs. Wade Supreme Court decision, which legalized abortion, and took place on the heels of the inauguration of President Bill Clinton, an abortion rights supporter.

But Rowe said although there was a man on the abortion rights side in the Oval Office, plenty of work remained to be done.

"Nebraskans must continue to work hard to make abortions safe and legal for women in this state," she said.

See LOBBY on 6



Jennifer Putzi, a graduate student in English, argues with Tim Campion of Wymore in front of the Nebraska Union Saturday.

Michelle Paulman/DN

Walk For Life

Demonstrators march on anniversary of Roe vs. Wade

By Jeff Zeleny
Senior Reporter

Thirty years ago, Lee Ezell was the victim of rape.

Nine months later, she gave her daughter, Julie, up for adoption.

Saturday, Julie Makimaa told her story to 4,400 anti-abortion demonstrators outside the State Capitol before the start of the 20th annual Nebraska Walk For Life.

"I want to share with you my story," she said. "Many of you are pro-life and believe that abortion is murder and that children

See related story on page 6.

should be protected. Many of you struggle with the issue of wondering what to do when a woman becomes pregnant by assault.

"What is the compassionate answer for this woman and that child?" she said. "We want to stand up for that child, but we don't want to turn our backs on the women who have unexpected pregnancies."

Makimaa, of Springfield, Ill., founded

— "A lot of people are pro-life, a lot are pro-choice, and there are many who don't know what they are.

—Hanigan
UNL student

Fortress International in 1990 to counsel women, children and families affected by sexual assault pregnancies.

"Many women who had pregnancies from assaults, who did take the life of their child, followed the advice of many of their friends," she said. "They are (now) saying, 'Wait a minute, I thought the abortion would put my life back together.'

"But that's not what the abortion did in their lives. It only re-victimimized them in a different way. Many of these women see me, and they have difficulty coming to the reality of what they did. They say, 'I was the victim, I was hurt by this person, but then I

turned around and took the life of the other innocent victim of the assault."

After the rally at the Capitol, the demonstrators marched to the Federal Building. The march commemorated the 20th anniversary of the landmark Roe vs. Wade Supreme Court decision, which legalized abortion in the United States.

Kerry Hanigan, a University of Nebraska-Lincoln student, has been in the march every year since it began in 1973. She said the anniversary was important for college students.

"The number of kids that are coming of age to college have been born during the time of Roe vs. Wade," Hanigan, a sophomore secondary education major, said. "The thing I always think of is, you look at all the empty desks in classrooms. If women would have had their babies all those desks could have been filled."

Hanigan said it was difficult to know how students felt about the abortion issue.

See WALK on 6

Student lobbyists plunge into flood of Legislative bills

Bills of interest to Government Liaison Committee

- LB203A—Constitutional amendment to change and limit terms of Board of Regents members.
- LB271—Repeal the consent of the Legislature for acquisition of real property by NU.
- LB52—Change dates of multicultural education programs in schools.
- LB74—Change provisions for waiver of college tuition for dependents of a veteran.
- LB179—Create the Multicultural Education Advisory Commission.
- LB254—Create the Nebraska Research Initiative Commission.
- LB287—Change provisions relating to the board for sale of issue.
- LB323—Change funding provisions for Copeland Hall at the UNL at Kearney.
- LB324—Change provisions for scholarships and grant secondary education.
- LB355—Amend the State Government Reorganization Act.
- LB381—Change provisions for the insurance program for student athletes at NU.
- LB456—Repeal a stipend for football players at UNL.
- LB474—Provide for college-level tennis clubs.
- LB495—Appropriate funds to NU for science and math education.

Scott Maurer/DN

GLC members keep watch out for budget cuts

By Jeff Zeleny
Senior Reporter

Issues affecting the University of Nebraska may appear buried in the heap of the 830 bills introduced at the Legislature, but three UNL students are working their way through that pile.

Members of the Government Liaison Committee are speaking out at the State Capitol on behalf of UNL students.

"You get a lot of students involved, so the Legislature gets the idea that university students play a viable force in what's going on at the Capitol," student lobbyist Robb Douglas said.

In another tight budget year, the student lobbyists are watching the budget and hoping no additional cuts will be made to the university.

In Gov. Ben Nelson's state-of-the-state and budget address Jan. 14, no additional cuts were proposed for the university.

But GLC member Chris Peterson said the address did not mean UNL would be spared.

Douglas agreed. "It's far from over," he said. "The senators weren't too happy with Gov. Nelson's proposals."

"We certainly don't advocate cuts for the university, but education seems to be getting squeezed," Douglas said. "We feel the university has gotten cut its fair share in the long run."

Douglas said the appropriations committee and the entire Legislature had a difficult job ahead.

"I don't envy their position at all,"

he said. "People like us are selling the value of everything out there. They will look at the budget very carefully."

GLC members are keeping track of 14 bills that they feel most affect the university:

- LR3CA is a constitutional amendment to change NU Board of Regent terms from six years to four. The bill was introduced by Sen. Ron Withem of Papillion. The GLC is taking a neutral stance on the proposed amendment.

- LB27 would require the university to have legislative consent before acquiring real property, introduced by Sens. Dan Lynch and John Lindsay of Omaha and Withem.

The bill came about after the university purchased land for a park near

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