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A&E

Hitchhiker trilogy returns

WEDNESDAY



39/20
Mostly cloudy today and windy with morning flurries. Partly cloudy tonight. Thursday, cloudy with a chance of light snow.



Travis Heying/DN

Students march to the Capitol Tuesday afternoon to protest the Legislature's proposed 5 percent budget cut to the University of Nebraska. About 150 students attended the march.

Students protest NU budget cuts

Some miss class to express views in Capitol march

By Jeff Zeleny
Senior Reporter

LeAnne West is concerned about her future at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. She said students rarely get an opportunity to voice their opinions to lawmakers. When they do, many students should take advantage of the opportunity.

Tuesday, West and every stu-

dent in the NU system were given that opportunity in a Government Liaison Committee rally protesting proposed budget cuts by the Legislature's Appropriations Committee.

"This is the only chance students have," West said. "This is our only chance to get down (here). We need to show we won't stand for it anymore."

About 150 students marched from Broyhill Plaza through Centennial Mall to the north steps of

the State Capitol, where a rally was held before the Appropriations Committee heard testimony on \$13.98 million of proposed NU cuts.

Sen. Dave Landis of Lincoln told the marchers the future of the NU system must be on everyone's mind.

"I worry about not just the person today, but I worry about people tomorrow, (the) next decade and next century," Landis said. "The university is key for making ourselves well for the future."

Landis earned his graduate and law degrees from UNL, and said he understands the frustration students face.

"I know what it's like to be in your fourth year and you can't get your degree," he said.

"You can't chop down the trees and harvest them now, it ruins the future," he said. "You have to let it go and prosper for the future."

West and her friend, Kim Kathol, missed class to attend the rally. Kathol, an undeclared freshman, said she was disappointed more students didn't attend the rally.

"It would have made a bigger effect," she said. "It affects every student."

See RALLY on 6

Cold wind greets NU appeals at hearing

By Chuck Green
Senior Reporter

As University of Nebraska at Kearney Chancellor William Nester addressed the Legislature's Appropriation's Committee Tuesday, a chilly wind blew through Room 1520 at the State Capitol.

The breeze, coming through the open windows in the room, caught the curtains and nearly toppled the Nebraska state flag to the floor.

It was an eerie foreshadowing of the day's testimony.

For almost seven hours, the nine-member committee, which writes the state budget, heard pleas from University of Nebraska administrators, faculty, staff and students to avoid what would be the fourth budget cut targeted at the university in two years.

Most of those who testified said further cuts from NU's budget would endanger its survival, and the survival of the state.

The Appropriations Committee announced in January that almost \$14 million would have to be shaved from NU's budget in the next two years.

In the last two years, \$12.1 million has been cut from the university's budget.

Andrew Sigerson, ASUN president and the student regent from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, said the entire state would suffer from further cuts at NU.

"It's not just dollar figures you're cutting, it's people," he said. "If students leave the state to become doctors, lawyers, or whatever, it's not like they're going to come back when they're finished with school. They're going to stay wherever the arc is at the time."

Sigerson said he was "angry, frustrated and nervous" when he heard there would be further cuts.

"Every year, we come down here to fight for money we think is neces-

See HEARING on 6

Academic Senate members split on possible tobacco ban

East Campus classes, facilities renovation discussed at meeting

By Angie Brunkow
Staff Reporter

Academic Senate members had mixed reactions Tuesday to a possible proposal to ban tobacco products entirely on campus.

Jack Goebel, vice chancellor for business

and finance, had asked senators to give him direction for developing the policy.

Goebel said several groups had requested the ban.

"There seems to be little sympathy for any variation from that theme," he said.

Janet Hanna, an extension representative from Burwell, Nebraska's largest employers, was in a position to set an important precedent for the rest of the state by implementing the ban.

"The university can act as an excellent role

model," she said.

But Royce Ballinger, biological science senator, said banning all tobacco products from the university was illogical. Smoking is the only way tobacco products can adversely affect those besides the smoker, he said.

Chewing tobacco does not harm anyone but the user, he said.

"Where do you draw the line?" Ballinger said.

Jack Siegman, sociology senator, said chewing tobacco should be banned because it was unclear.

Don Jensen, psychology senator, said the

smoking ban should be flexible, allowing smokers to smoke in rooms with separate ventilation systems.

In other business, Goebel said the list of candidates for a University of Nebraska-Lincoln recycling coordinator had been narrowed to three.

Goebel said the university had been "waffling" for many years about how to deal with recycling, but progress was being made with the appointment of the coordinator.

"While it's a very slow process, it's a pro-

See SENATE on 3

VOICE emerges as ASUN campaign's big spender

Proposed budget five times higher than PARTY's

By Jeffrey Robb
Staff Reporter

Which student election group wins the race for ASUN will be decided today, but the spending race, at least, already has

been won.

ASUN

93

BALLOT BOX

the \$500 PARTY treasurer Andrew Peshek said his group would spend.

VOICE's spending on work-party supplies alone, such as refreshments,

plates and napkins, was at least \$150, according to ASUN campaign financial records.

Senatorial candidates under the VOICE banner each contributed \$35, and VOICE advisory board candidates paid \$25, according to the records. As of Feb. 26, these fees had added up to about \$1,000.

Keith Bencs, VOICE presidential candidate, contributed \$400. Second Vice-Presidential candidate Jill Anderson chipped in \$250.

On Tuesday, VOICE's bank account was in debt \$422, but Archuleta said the group soon would make a deposit to cover the amount.

According to records, PARTY supporters contributed only \$477 to campaign funds. PARTY presidential hopeful Steve Dietz said it was suggested that senatorial candidates in his group contribute \$10 each, but as of Feb. 26 only two had paid.

Dietz said he wished PARTY had had a budget as high as VOICE's to

work with.

"I could have done some things that I would have liked to have done if only I had more money," he said.

Dietz said his limited funding was frustrating, but he didn't want this year's race to turn into a spending spree.

He said he heard of past campaigns where more than \$7,000 was spent. But he said the message PARTY could

See SPENDING on 3