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## UNL tuition increased by 5%

By Shane Tucker  
Staff Reporter

When times are tough, a business often pushes the brunt of its financial difficulties onto the consumer.

On Saturday, the University of Nebraska-Lincoln showed that it was no different.

The NU Board of Regents voted unanimously last weekend to approve university budget guidelines, which include a five percent increase in tuition fees. The regents will approve the final budget at their meeting in July.

The decision was in accordance with the Legislature's budget recommendation for the next biennium.

According to university officials, the proposed tuition rate for undergraduate residents is \$64.50 per credit hour, a 4.9 percent increase from the previous \$61.50 per credit hour cost. Nonresident undergraduate students will experience a 5.1 percent increase, from \$167.50 per credit hour to \$176.00.

Graduate students will also be subject to an increase, with resident rates raising from \$81.50 to \$85.50 and nonresident rates increasing from \$201.25 to \$211.25 per credit hour.

Similar tuition increases were approved for the University of Nebraska

at Omaha, the University of Nebraska at Kearney and the University of Nebraska Medical Center.

UNL student regent Keith Benes expressed concern with the increase, but said he did not feel students were "carrying too much of the burden."

"The overall trend of tuition increases disturbs me...but we're doing what we have to do to maintain the quality of programs at the university," Benes said.

Benes said he was concerned that if tuition continued to rise every year while the Legislature cut or left the university budget with a zero percent increase, students might end up paying an unreasonable amount of money

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## Public service possible tuition option

By DeDra Janssen  
Staff Reporter

University of Nebraska-Lincoln students may be able to pay for their education with public service work if a new legislative bill is passed by Congress, a university official said Monday.

The House Education and Labor Committee and the Senate Labor and Human Resources Committee approved a bill last week that would create a national program in which students could work off up to \$10,000 in college tuition by performing public service work.

Students in the program would also get a stipend and qualify for health care and child day-care benefits according to Larry Apel, UNL's Associate Director of Scholarships and Financial Aid.

"If we could set up a good community service program, we could help the community and the nation as a whole; I think that's what (President) Clinton envisions," Apel said.

President Bill Clinton is a sup-

porter of the bill.

Apel said the proposed program would be available to anyone over age 17 who is a high school graduate or who has a general education diploma.

Students could participate in the proposed program before or after a debt had been made on tuition, he said.

High school graduates could earn up to \$10,000, which would be credited to an institution of higher education, by doing public service work part-time for two years or full-time for one year.

College students who already have debt could earn up to \$10,000 in the same manner to give to the lender of the debt.

The program would begin with 25,000 students qualifying the first year and would eventually grow to 150,000 students. It would cost an estimated \$9.5 billion over the next five years.

Concerns about the costs of the program will figure prominently in the decision of Nebraska Sens. Bob Kerrey and Jim Exon on whether to

support the bill.

Dorothy Endacott, Exon's press secretary, said the senator had told Clinton the program in itself was wonderful, but he was worried about how the cost of the program would impact the budget and that it would grow into an entitlement program.

Sen. Kerrey also has not taken a position on the bill yet because there are both things he likes and dislikes about the bill, said Peggy Johannsen, Kerrey's Deputy Press Secretary.

While Kerrey said the program fosters the spirit of volunteerism, he was also concerned about costs, Johannsen said.

But Apel said the program would offer numerous advantages, not only for participants but for society.

"It would give people jobs and an opportunity to see that they can do something," Apel said. "It would give them an alternative to being on the street."

"Young people would be working and doing good for the community and doing good for themselves at the same time," he said.



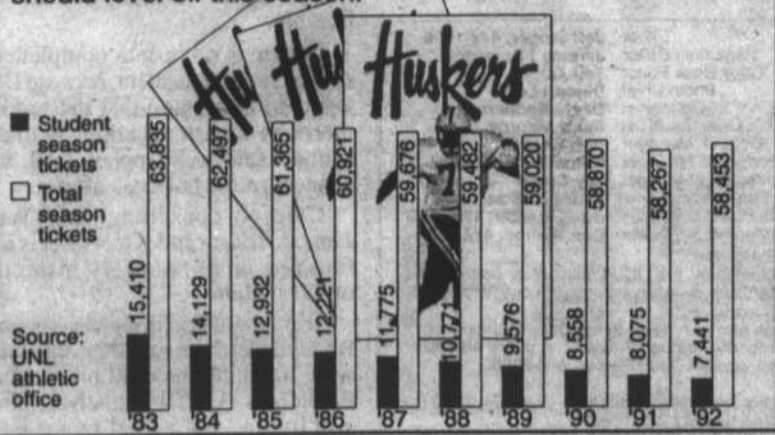
Jeff Zelony/DN

### Jazz in June

Annette Murrell sings the blues to the sounds of the Mother's Big Band Tuesday evening in the Sheldon Memorial Sculpture Garden. Murrell is a University of Nebraska-Lincoln English graduate student. About 200 people attended the last outdoor jazz concert of the month.

## Football season ticket sales hurt by lack of student interest

The decline of student ticket sales over the past 10 years should level off this season.



## Student ticket demand declining

By Brian Sharp  
Staff Reporter

After Nebraska student football ticket sales hit their lowest point in over 25 years last season, the University of Nebraska-Lincoln has decided to make some changes.

Joe Selig, UNL athletic ticket office manager, said student sales had been declining steadily for the past 10 to 12 years.

And this has prompted UNL Athletic Director Bill Byrne to alter the way tickets are apportioned to help ensure that Nebraska continues its current NCAA record of 188 consecutive sellouts since 1962.

Previously, all unsold student tick-

ets were offered to the public on a game by game basis. Now, Byrne said, student seating has been cut to about 10,000, minus the 189 seats lost in Memorial Stadium's May collapse — still well over the 7,441 sold last year.

The seats that had been given to students will now be offered to the public as season tickets.

Byrne said the decline in student interest was not just a UNL problem, but at numerous schools across the country as well.

He said the reason for this was due mainly to a change in the demographics of the student body. The typical 18-24 year old student has been replaced by the now more common 24-26 year old, single-parent student look-

ing for ways to generate income instead of spend it.

But, Nebraska football coach Tom Osborne said the problem was not to be taken lightly. He said decreasing student season ticket sales is a definite concern.

"From 17,000 sold 10 years ago to about 7,000 last year, that's a tremendous drop," Osborne said. "We'd like to see more student support; students need to feel that the program is an ally and not an opponent."

Student ticket sales for the upcoming season are expected to hold steady, while faculty and staff season ticket sales are believed to continue to drop off slightly, Selig said.

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