

# Daily Nebraskan

May 2, 1994

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Vol. 93 No. 153

SPORTS

## Special Olympics

More than 200 Special Olympians participated in a weekend of hoops with the Cornhuskers.

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Monday 5/5/94

Today, mostly cloudy with a chance of rain. Tuesday will be mostly cloudy with a chance of rain.



# NU president to take more control of budget

By Brian Sharp and Matthew Waite  
Senior Reporters

NU President Dennis Smith said Saturday he would be asserting more control over the University of Nebraska budget.

## NU REGENTS

Speaking during the NU Board of Regents meeting this weekend, Smith said regents had said they wanted one university with a strong president to whom the chancellors would report.

With budget arrangements now,

Smith said, the office of the president was basically a "fifth campus."

"No university system can operate in that manner," he said.

Joe Rowson, NU spokesman, said Sunday that control of NU's budget had been assumed by the Nebraska Legislature in recent years. Smith's plan would return those duties to the presidency, he said.

"We have wound up with a system where ... the Legislature has come to set the priorities for the university," Rowson said.

The university always has received its money from the state in a lump sum, Rowson said. That money is divided among the four NU campuses by the regents and the president.

But the Legislature specifies where

it intends the money to go in appropriation bills, Rowson said. NU officials have come to honor those intentions, he said.

By law, however, the Legislature is prohibited from directing where the money will be spent.

"I think it (the change) is very much within the spirit of the way the university is constitutionally established," Rowson said. "If you're going to have a system that works its way around the president's office, what use is a president?"

With Smith's announced change, the president will deal with chancellors from each campus and then decide the needs of the entire system, Rowson said.

Rowson said this should reduce the

amount of confusion about NU's needs — giving the Legislature only one person to consult.

But Rowson said he didn't expect the change to end politicking between campuses about funding.

"There has been direct communication between some senators and members of individual campuses," he said. "I expect that will continue, but this makes it clear who is going to be making the decisions."

Lee Rupp, NU vice president and director of legislative affairs, will continue to be the university's only lobbyist.

Smith said that many times specific campus needs had to be addressed, and the campuses' only recourse was dealing directly with the Legislature.

Now, Smith said a general university fund would be established by the president to address these needs.

The money would be used to pay for items such as research on whether to establish an engineering college at the University of Nebraska at Omaha.

"This is not a central administration fund," he said. "The money all goes back to the campuses."

Rowson said changes also would bring funding of the president's office directly under the regents.

In the past, Rowson said, each campus would contribute to the office's fund out of its own budget. The change would define how much campuses should contribute, he said.

## Regents vote for increased waiting period for residency

By Matthew Waite  
Senior Reporter

Out-of-state students will have to live in Nebraska six months longer to establish residency, the NU Board of Regents decided at its Saturday meeting.

## NU REGENTS

Voting unanimously, the board changed the residency waiting period for incoming students in 1995 from six months to one year.

To demonstrate residency, students now are asked to provide evidence such as signing an affidavit that says they plan to make Nebraska their permanent home. Students have 10 other ways to prove residency.

NU Provost Lee Jones said change would make Nebraska's lenient policies tougher. The policy was meant to be broad, with each of the four NU campuses developing their own specific one.

Regent Don Blank of McCook said the change would mean a lot of money for the university. However, he said, it was not meant to deter students from coming to Nebraska.

"We do want to attract the best and the brightest," he said.

The number of out-of-state students in the NU system, especially in the professional schools, Blank said, was significant. He said 50 percent of the dental college students and 38 percent of the law students in Nebraska were from out of state.

Regents' questioned the effect of the policy on out-of-state tuition scholarships designed to offset tuition costs for exceptional and minority students.

A 20 percent limit on the the number of

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Travis Heying/DN

## 'Cut it out'

Li Kitterer, a University of Nebraska at Kearney student, sits in front of Varner Hall Saturday while environmental groups protest the NU Board of Regents' contract with Mitsubishi Electronics. See story on Page 6.

# Regents want no fee approval power

By Matthew Waite  
Senior Reporter

The NU Board of Regents on Saturday passed a watered-down version of a proposal for the regents to approve all fee increases, including parking and athletic ticket prices.

The original proposal, brought by University of Nebraska-Lincoln student regent Andrew Loudon, required campus chancellors to report all fee increases to University of Nebraska President Dennis Smith. Smith

would then pass the information to the regents for approval.

During debate, regents amended the measure to require the chancellors to report increases to the regents, but the regents would not have power to approve or disapprove the changes.

Loudon said students' concerns about rising education prices brought on the idea. "The cost of securing a college degree has increased dramatically in the last decade," he said. "This new policy would ensure that

any changes would be subject to consideration in a public forum."

On April 26, Loudon outlined his concerns in a press conference. He said parking fees increased this year by an average of 81 percent, or \$62.67. Also, football tickets rose \$17, and from 1991 to 1993, laboratory fees increased on average from \$16.47 to \$21.18.

Loudon said he wasn't blaming the board

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# Election of senators to precede crucial year for UNL

By Brian Sharp  
Senior Reporter

For the last six years, the Nebraska Legislature has dealt UNL round after round of budget cuts.

And the University of Nebraska-Lincoln isn't going to take it anymore.



That's the message Michael Mulnix, executive director of university relations, said he wanted to send senators this year.

With primary elections for Beatrice and the

three Lincoln districts on May 10, Mulnix said he was hopeful that would be the message voters would send candidates as well.

"It's going to be one of the most important sessions in recent history," Mulnix said. "We need additional funding. We absolutely cannot take any more cuts."

The additional funding for which UNL will be asking in the upcoming session would go toward much-needed maintenance projects and hiring more faculty.

Mulnix said millions of dollars were needed for maintenance projects that had been neglected for years.

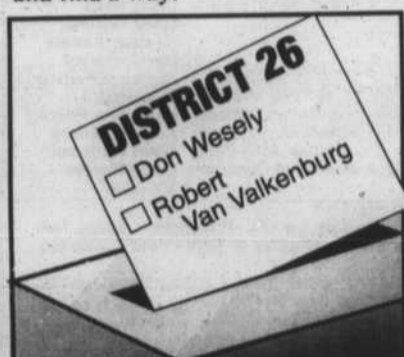
Combine that with the faculty that needs to be hired, he said, and UNL will be asking for a large chunk of funds from the Legislature.

"We're closing courses left and right," he said. "Class sizes are huge. Further cuts will result in serious cuts to programs or just lesser quality overall."

By most estimates, the Legislature will begin with a \$60 to \$100 million deficit because of shortfalls last year, Mulnix said.

"We (UNL) have to be part of the solution and not just constantly complain about cuts," Mulnix said. "What we (UNL and senators) are going to

have to do is put our heads together and find a way."



The budget cuts are coming—that they can agree on. But whether the cuts are warranted is another story.

Sen. Don Wesely and Robert Van Valkenburg, candidates from the 26th legislative district, disagree on how much the university budget can be trimmed.

Wesely said the state's budget looked bad for the coming year, and he didn't foresee any good things happening for UNL's budget.

"I think we're in for a rough ride," Wesely said. "At the same time, the

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