

Bill asks state for library funds

By Melanie Brandert
Staff Reporter

A resolution that encourages Gov. Ben Nelson to set aside a portion of the state budget for the NU libraries will be discussed at the ASUN meeting Wednesday night.

Andrew Loudon, president of the Association of Students of the University of Nebraska, said the resolution would ask Nelson for \$300,000. The office of the vice chancellor for academic affairs at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln has said that at least that amount is needed to improve the libraries.

Nelson is putting together a proposal for the state biennium budget for 1996-1997.

The Legislature will be more likely

to consider the allocation if Nelson includes it in his proposal, Loudon said.

"If our governor puts it in his budget, it has a chance of seeing it in the Legislature," he said.

But the Legislature's appropriations committee, which puts together its own budget proposal, could disregard the library fund request in the governor's proposal, he said.

Loudon said the libraries needed more money because the subscription cost of periodicals had been rising. These increased prices have forced the libraries to cut the number of subscriptions.

He said the libraries also must become accessible to disabled students in order to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act. One change that is needed is elevator renovations.

Loudon said library officials also would like to create an electronic classroom in both Love Library and C.Y. Thompson Library.

The classrooms would be used to educate patrons on how to use IRIS, the libraries' on-line card catalog, as well as Internet and electronic mail.

If passed, Loudon said, the resolution would convince Nelson and Nebraska legislators about the need to enhance the education of students.

"Education needs to take place and that takes money," Loudon said.

He said the University of Nebraska Board of Regents also would discuss the resolution at its November meeting.

Dave Milligan, speaker of the ASUN senate, said the senate's appointments board had made a number of appointments that would be brought before the senate for approval at its meeting.

Loudon said James Griesen, UNL vice chancellor for student affairs, would announce the four new student members of the UNL Publications Board, which oversees the Daily Nebraskan.

Hospital trip delayed by crash

From Staff Reports

A Lincoln woman was hospitalized after a one-car accident on Tuesday morning, but not because of the crash.

Police reports give the following account of the incident:

Katherin Stuefer, 26, was having problems breathing at about 3:30 a.m. Tuesday when a male friend, 30, and a female friend, 23, decided to take her to the hospital.

The group left Stuefer's residence, 2437 U St., with the female friend driving and Stuefer in the back seat. At first, they headed to Bryan Memorial Hospital at 1600 S. 48th St., but the car ran out of gas at 44th and O streets.

After getting gas, they returned to the house and then left again, this time for Lincoln General Hospital at 2300 S. 16th St. Police would not

say why they returned to the home.

The three then headed south on 16th Street in the center lane, and then they tried to turn west onto South Street. Vehicles in the center lane must turn east.

Traveling southwest, the vehicle struck the median, continued across two lanes of traffic, hit a pole and then ran into Town Pump Liquor, 2100 S. 16th St. Police reported no injuries in the accident.

Tim Jasnoch, store manager, said the accident knocked several bricks off the building and cracked foundation blocks.

Sgt. Ann Heermann said police were investigating the cause of Stuefer's medical condition. She said charges could be filed against the three passengers and others.

Stuefer was in intensive care Tuesday night at Lincoln General Hospital.



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The Computing Resource Center is offering free microcomputer classes to UNL students. The classes will feature an introduction to Microsoft Word for the Macintosh. No reservations are required. Seats are available on a first come, first served basis.

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Shaun Sartin/DN

Workers from Peoples Natural Gas look for a break in the gas line near 20th and Vine streets. Firefighting crews wait nearby in case of an explosion.

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Gas Leak

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Chief Mike Merwick said the concentration of oxygen in the manhole was too low to cause the gas to ignite.

Police and firefighters were alerted about the gas leak by a 911 call at about 1:45 p.m., Kennett said.

At that time, the Lincoln police and fire departments, along with other city agencies, were dispatched to the scene. Merwick said he originally thought the gas might be methane but later learned it was natural gas.

Merwick was one of the first to arrive on the scene.

"We evacuated the workers from

the Beadle Center, we evacuated ... about a hundred and some people around this whole area," he said.

Police officers stopped traffic from 17th Street to about 22nd Street and from Vine Street to R Street.

Power was shut off to the Beadle Center and to several homes in the area to prevent the gas from being ignited, Merwick said. Traffic became snarled in the area.

No injuries have been reported, and Merwick said other university buildings were not in danger.

"We checked down by the university, some of the manholes there, and there was just a small concentration, nothing explosive," he said.

Beside the police and fire depart-

ments, Peoples Natural Gas, Lincoln Electric, the Public Works and Utilities Department and the City/County Health Department were involved, Merwick said.

"There's a lot of people that have to interact," he said.

Dick Clarence of Peoples Natural Gas said the different agencies interacted well to get the problem under control.

"I would say with the cooperation between the fire department and the police department and utilities, it went quite smoothly, I thought," he said.

The evacuated construction workers were allowed to return to the Beadle Center around 4:15 p.m., and most of the emergency crews had left by 5:30 p.m.

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