

Daily Nebraskan

COVERING THE UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA SINCE 1901

VOL. 94 NO. 106

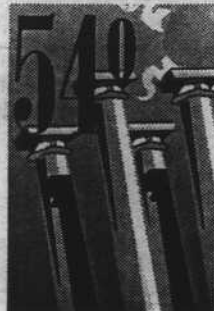
inside **Weekend**

Sports

Thompson leads Husker wrestling team, page 7

Arts & Entertainment

The School of Music presents "The Marriage of Figaro," page 9



February 17-19, 1995

Abortion funding, notification debated

Omaha Senator introduces bill that would ban use of public funds for abortion

By J. Christopher Hain
Senior Reporter

People on both sides of the abortion issue should be able to agree that they disagree, Sen. John Lindsay of Omaha said Thursday.

"It's indisputable that the issue of abortion is an extremely divisive issue in this country," Lindsay told the Legislature's Judiciary Committee.

Lindsay introduced a bill that would prohibit the use of public funds for abortion.

LB879, he said, avoids determining which side is correct. But the bill prevents those who are opposed to abortion from being forced to contribute to abortion through tax dollars, Lin-

say said.

"It is fundamentally wrong for the state to use its money to violate the most fundamental principles you hold," Lindsay said.

The committee voted 6-0 to advance the bill to the floor of the Legislature.

During the hearing, Susan Hale of Planned Parenthood of Omaha and Council Bluffs said she was concerned the bill would continue a long history of mistreatment of poor women.

She said the bill would restrict access to health care and force many poor women to carry unwanted pregnancies to term.

Unwanted children born to poor mothers face a long road of problems throughout their lives, said Sheryl Schrapf of Planned Parenthood Voters for Choice.

"The economic and social costs to society are enormous," Schrapf said.

Responsibility to inform students of abortion laws may change if bill passes

By J. Christopher Hain
Senior Reporter

Informing high school students about abortion laws is a medical issue, not an educational issue, Martha Fricke of the Nebraska Association of School Boards said Thursday.

Fricke was speaking to the Legislature's Judiciary Committee in support of LB859, which would take that responsibility away from the state's school districts.

In 1992, the Legislature passed a bill that required school districts to provide information to all students in grades seven through 12 about parental notification of an abortion and how to obtain a judicial waiver for that noti-

fication.

LB859 transfers that responsibility to the Department of Health, and allows the information to be made available on a 1-800 line.

Sen. Ardyce Bohlke of Hastings, who sponsored the bill, said it still provided the same information, but changed how that information was delivered.

"Currently, every student gets the information whether they need it or not," Bohlke said.

Bohlke said that by providing the information through a taped telephone message, those who wanted access to the information could obtain it confidentially.

Susan Hale of Planned Parenthood of Omaha and Council Bluffs said she supported LB859, but would like to see the information both handed out and available through a telephone line.

"Young people have the right to know about a law that could irreparably change their life," Hale said.

Regents to view UNL themselves

By Matthew Waite
Senior Reporter

Regent Drew Miller of Papillion said Thursday that in business, a tour like the one the Regents were taking today was called "management by wandering about."

Whatever you call it, the NU Board of Regents will be shown the highlights of instructional quality at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln today as part of their monthly meeting this weekend.

NU spokesman Joe Rowson said the regents' tour was part of a change made by the governance committee, which, among other things, eliminated the campus reports from chancellors at the meetings.

In its place, he said, the regents would tour each of the four NU campuses and also the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources on UNL's East Campus.

Stops along the way for today's tour include briefings about university housing, the new media center in Mabel Lee Hall, discussions with the deans of the College of Arts and Sciences and the College of Fine and Performing Arts and tours of the law college on East Campus.

The tour would focus on instructional quality and undergraduate education, university spokeswoman Phyllis Larsen said.

"We can't show the regents everything," she said. "We're trying to show them some of the things that they maybe have not seen."

Several issues, including deferred maintenance, had been considered as a tour item, but instructional quality won. She said deferred maintenance already had been discussed at length by the regents.

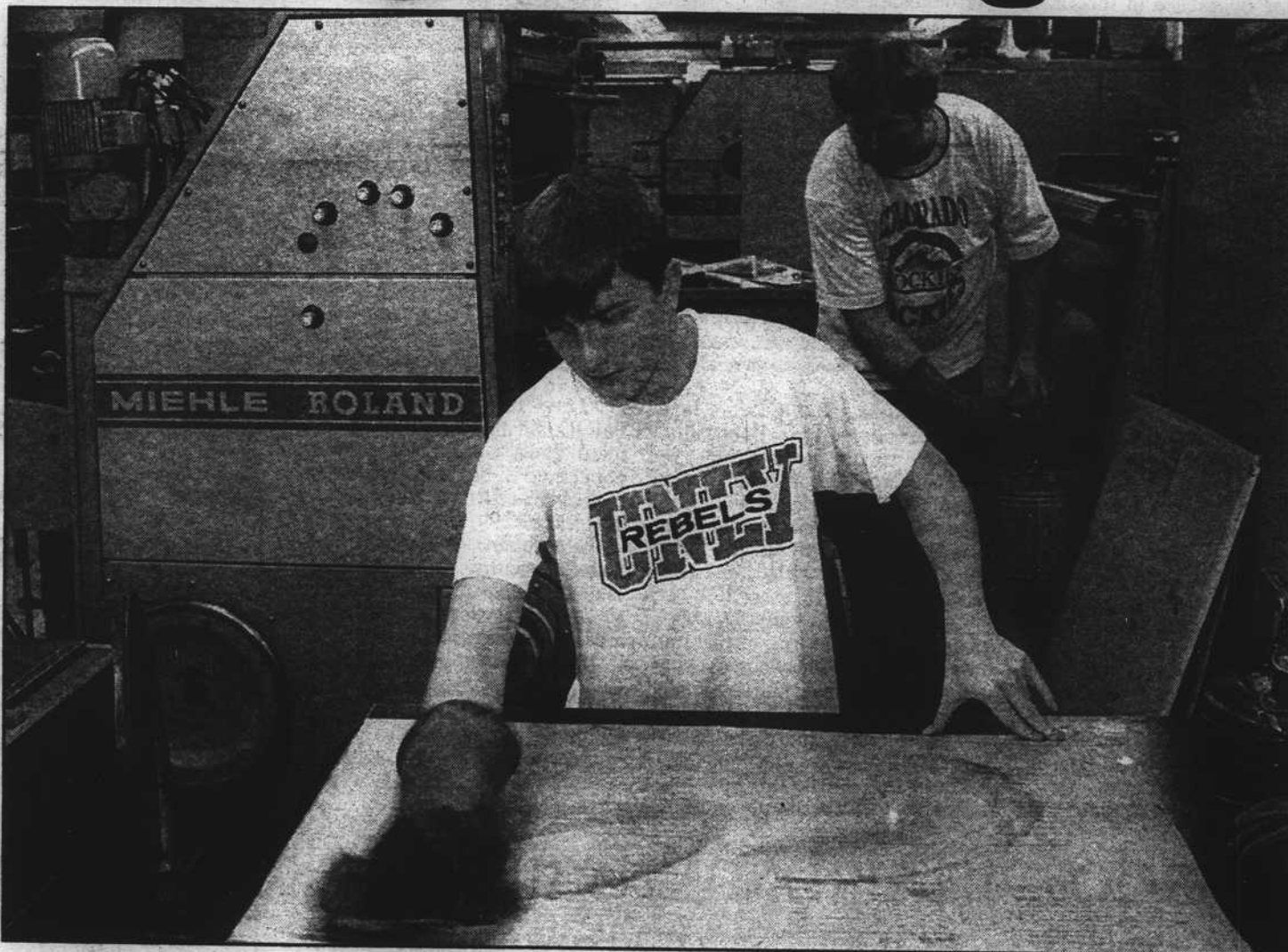
"It's hard to talk about these things (instructional quality highlights) in a meeting," she said.

Several regents agreed.

Miller, who grew up on the UNL campus where his father was a professor, said having a report was one thing, but seeing the item was another.

Miller said that even with his and other regents' familiarity with the campus, many things would be new

Working for a living



Michael Hagey, a junior pre-architecture major, prepares an offset printing plate for storage in the press room at UNL Printing Services Thursday. Hagey, along with 4,500 other UNL employees, will see a wage increase if minimum wage legislation is passed. Damon Lee/DN

Increasing wages may scrunch UNL

By Paula Lavigne
Senior Reporter

While 4,500 student, temporary and regular employees at UNL would receive pay increases if the minimum wage was raised, that would not raise all university employees' wages, a university director said.

Bruce Currin, director of human resources at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, said employees in pay classes below the new minimum wage would be "scrunched" into higher classes.

President Clinton proposed raising the minimum wage to \$5.15, and a bill before the Nebraska Legislature would raise it to \$5.25. Both wages would be near the bottom of UNL's pay scale.

Currin said raises might not be successive. For example, if those making \$4.75 had their wages raised about 10 percent to \$5.25, that wouldn't mean someone already making \$5.25 or above also would receive a 10 percent raise.

Daryl Swanson, director of Nebraska Union, said such compression was not good personnel prac-

tice, but was the most economical solution.

Temporary and regular employees receive above the current \$4.25 minimum wage, but most receive below \$5.15. Only a few student employees receive \$4.25.

Regular employees are hired for six months or more, and include lab assistants, food technicians, lithographers and others, while temporary employees are hired for six months or less for special events such as registration.

Students often are hired through work-study programs.

As a regular employee at The Bakery in Nebraska Union, Tammy Hennecke said she did not think the minimum wage increase would affect her current \$6 wage.

"If they are going to raise the minimum wage, they should raise everyone's wages," she said, "but they don't have to raise everyone's by a dollar."

Because each department determines its own wages, Currin said the result would depend on the department affected. He said de-

See SCRUNCH on 6

See REGENTS on 6