



Delzene Moncrief of Lansing, Mich., waits for the California Zephyr at the Amtrak station in the Haymarket early Thursday morning. Moncrief rides the train to Lincoln to visit her granddaughters.

Jon Waller/DN

Amtrak

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efficient and essential to rural states like Nebraska," Exon said in a press release. "It is a critical part of the nation's transportation network."

The Rail Investment Act encourages Amtrak to seek cost savings by increasing cooperation with inter-city bus services, developing new

sources of revenue and expanding publicity efforts.

David Bowden, manager of International Tours of Lincoln, said Amtrak could not launch aggressive advertising campaigns like airlines could.

He said about 5 percent of the people who booked tours through his agency did not even know Amtrak was an option.

"Amtrak's at a disadvantage," he said. "They

run one train a day through Lincoln, and Lincoln alone has 11 or 12 jets departing the same day."

But Amtrak's popularity soars in the summer, he said, and it is a popular option for college students who want to take the train to Winter Park, Colo., during the ski season.

"When airlines charge \$400 to get to Denver, a \$120 train ticket can look quite cheap," he said.

Libraries

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percent in the past five years.

If the latest budget request were granted, UNL would be able to retain current subscription levels, or at least reduce the amount cut, Hendrickson said.

"We're still talking about trying to stay even," he said.

However, subscriptions will be 14 percent higher again next year, Hendrickson said.

The libraries canceled \$350,000 in subscriptions this year, but Hendrickson said the Athletic Department stepped in and pledged money from national-championship profits.

Pill-Soon Song, chairman of the chemistry department, said the cuts in library subscriptions had wide-ranging effects on the department. He said graduate research, grant proposal writing, original research and faculty morale all had been damaged by the cuts.

"Perhaps the most devastating effect of this is the faculty morale," Song said. "They see that these important journals are being cut because of the budget and they get discouraged."

Song said the budget increase for the libraries was important for research at UNL.

"The budget increase is not going to mean additional subscriptions," he said. "It's going to maintain what we've got."

Also, the subscription cuts have started to affect the university in the two areas where it hurts the most: its pocketbook and its students.

Hembre said the cuts made it harder to get grants because they impeded the professors' abilities to compete. He said the university took in \$40,000 from every \$100,000 in grant money he received.

The university makes almost \$2 million a year from the almost \$4 million in grants the chemistry department brings in, Hembre said.

Hendrickson said undergraduate and graduate students had been hurt by the cuts. He said the library had tried to protect students, especially undergraduates, by retaining some of the more general journals.

The journals that will be cut first are the specialized and expensive science journals. Some journal subscriptions cost as much as \$17,000 per year.

Hendrickson said that when those specialized journals were cut, the libraries lost the topics they represented.

"It's not like a subscription to Time, where if Time doubles their price we all go subscribe to Newsweek," he said. "There's not that type of competition."

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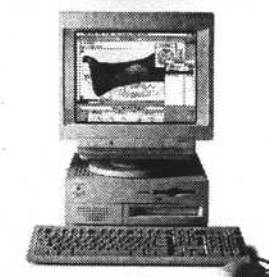
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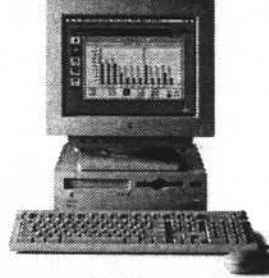
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