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## SUN DAZE



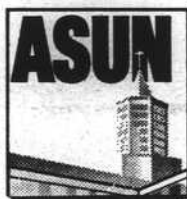
Jay Calderon/DN

Dawn Doverspiek, a voice-performance graduate student, relaxes on a sculpture near Westbrook Music Building Wednesday afternoon.

## ASUN debates Herbie pros, cons

By Kasey Kerber  
Staff Reporter

The fate of Herbie Husker appeared to have been put to rest, but some ASUN members said Wednesday night the mascot wasn't a dead issue. The debate was prompted by an "emergency" senate bill calling for a petition drive to reinstate Herbie as the official university mascot.



Senators Brian Buescher and Kiersten Yanken proposed the bill under "emergency" status because they felt there was not time to take it through a committee. "Despite Herbie's appearance in Saturday's game, this issue is not over. He's still threatened and we don't want that," said Buescher, of the committee for fees allocations. "Students weren't considered and the administrators were the ones that canned him."

"If they're going to can a mascot that represents an entire student body, let the students have input on the matter."

Senators spoke both for and against Herbie's reinstatement.

"We are starting in a brand new conference next year and have a chance to have a whole new image," said Ormaun Lewis, of the humans rights committee. "Look at the mascots of teams out there. Colleges like Texas Tech and Colorado have mascots they run out onto the field. They are actual mascots. We don't really get that with Herbie Husker."

Chuck Lee, of the communications committee, believed Herbie should stay.

"Not many people realize it, but

*"Despite Herbie's appearance in Saturday's game, this issue is not over. He's still threatened and we don't want that."*

**BRIAN BUESCHER**

ASUN senator

Herbie's become an international symbol," Lee said. "He's known by people in Germany watching a Nebraska game or Saudi Arabians who saw him on television during Desert Storm."

One point brought up by Yanken, chairwoman of the communications committee, was that the athletic department could offer no information on a supposed Herbie Husker survey given to season ticket holders.

"The athletic department didn't have a copy of the survey and they couldn't give us any figures," Yanken said.

"They basically said that we had to trust them on the survey."

The proposed petition drive would include advertisements in the Daily Nebraskan to inform students of Herbie Husker and extensive petition efforts in the Greek organizations and residence halls.

The bill passed with a majority voice vote, the only one of seven bills Wednesday that found any opposition among senators.

The senate also discussed a bill dealing with Gov. Ben Nelson's failure to sign a letter endorsing the future of research and the sustaining of federal funding for it.

"Seventeen other governors from around the United States have put their name on this letter," ASUN President Shawntell Hurtgen said.

"This letter will hopefully lead to legislation in Congress."

"The proposed bill will direct our Government Liaison Committee to request for Nelson's signature on the letter."

In other ASUN news:

● A senate bill was passed calling for a 24-hour access computer lab in the Nebraska Student Union. Though 24-hour labs have already been established, the buildings which house them usually have set hours that keep many students from gaining access to the lab late at night.

The bill would take effect after Thanksgiving and be on a trial run until December. Security would be included under the bill's provisions and users of the lab might be required to show a student ID's after 11 p.m. to verify their student status.

● A bill involving the Campus Watch program was also passed. This bill will increase the cooperation efforts between student services and the Campus Police.

● Three other bills were passed: one recognized the summer parking improvements; another approved CFA's bylaws; and a third resolved that the College of Business Administration should continue to be flexible when it makes major requirement changes.

## UNO begins infotech program

By Paula Lavigne  
Senior Reporter

Although UNO is starting an information technology program, Lincoln students shouldn't think they're missing out, a UNL administrator said.

Interim Chancellor Joan Leitzel said information technology education at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln was comparable to the developing Information and Science Technology Program at the University of Nebraska at Omaha.

Richard Flynn, dean of the UNO College of Education and program director, said the program should have a permanent director and be on solid ground by January.

It will offer degrees in information

technology, he said, and might evolve into a college.

Information technology is a broad and emerging field, he said, which brings together several related disciplines such as computer science, information systems management and electronics engineering.

UNO's current Center for the Management of Information Technology will be implemented into the new program, he said.

Leitzel said UNL's College of Business Administration and College of Engineering and Technology offered similar courses. The only difference is that UNO decided to group its courses into a program.

"It's a complementary program to our engineering programs," she said. "It's not an overlap. It's a different

way of giving students experience in information systems."

Creating the new program was a response to needs of Omaha industries, Leitzel said.

Flynn agreed, saying the program came out of a task force made up of local business leaders in March.

"We want to listen carefully to the business community and be responsive to their needs," he said.

As information technology saturates the business world, he said, it is important to give students a comprehensive program that makes them ideal bait for future employers.

The program is still in the planning stages, he said, as national consultants are being brought in to add to input from UNO faculty members and Nebraska business leaders.