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THURSDAY

WEATHER:

Today - Cold with a 30% chance of light snow.

South wind 5 to 15 mph.

Tonight - Bitterly cold.

Low 15 below.

February 1, 1996



ASUN criticizes seating proposal

By Kasey Kerber
Staff Reporter

The Athletic Department's proposed rearranging of student seating at football games, claims of validation abuse and a possible buy-back program for tickets were pummeled at last night's ASUN meeting.



Under the seating change proposal, two student sections close to the field would be eliminated, and two new student sections would open up farther away from the field.

The Athletic Department said the proposed change was prompted by letters of complaint from non-student fans. Fans sitting behind student sections said they could not see the field when students stood on the bleachers.

"This is football, and people need to get tough and get over it," said Eric Marintzer, Government Liaison Committee chairman. "It's the students that create the hype and the excitement, and we're the ones that make up the whole game and the university."

Many senators from the Association of Students of the University of Nebraska said the proposal had little to do with obstructing fans' views.

"Money was the issue, they said. 'If two previous student sections were opened up to regular ticket buyers, more money could be made,' said Jon Scheve, a senator from the College of Business Administration.

In a lengthy discussion, senators criticized the Athletic Department for continually sacrificing student seating.

This carried into the next concern of the Athletic Department: that vali-

"If two previous student sections were opened up to regular ticket buyers, more money could be made."

JON SCHEVE
ASUN senator

ation of football tickets is being abused.

The Athletic Department submitted a chart of how many student tickets were validated for each home game, ranging from 9 percent for the Arizona State game to 40 percent for the Oklahoma game.

"What I don't get is why they care," said Malcolm Kass, chairman of the Committee for Fees Allocation. "They get more money once we validate our tickets."

A final issue was a possible buy-back program for tickets. Once again money was the concern, and senators were critical.

"Why would we want to sell our tickets back to the university for eight bucks when we can sell it for thirty?" said Jason Bynum, campus life chairman.

Chuck Lee, a senator from Public Affairs and Community Services, said, "I don't think this is a good idea, because the Athletic Department, with their love of statistics, might claim that a good deal of students are selling their tickets back to the university and therefore feel that students won't need as many tickets next year."

The issues will be discussed in next week's meeting with representatives from the Athletic Department.



Scott Bruhn/DN

Michael Nuss, an undeclared freshman, left, and Jay Palu, a sophomore architecture student, help put up "Design Diaspora: Black Architects and International Architecture 1970-1990" on Wednesday afternoon in Architecture Hall.

Black architects' show opens

By Eva Nekovar
Staff Reporter

An exhibit of works by 50 black architects opens today at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln College of Architecture.

Faye Kopke, a project assistant, said "Design Diaspora: Black Architects and International Architecture 1970-1990" is one of the few traveling exhibits to come to UNL this year.

Sponsored by the College of Architecture, it is the first traveling exhibition to focus on the achieve-

ments of architects of African descent.

The exhibit features architects who practice in the United States, Europe, Africa, South America and the Caribbean.

"This will give students another perspective," said Geri Wesely, an administrative assistant for the College of Architecture.

"The exhibition contains drawings, models and photographs and includes a wide range of built environments, designs for transportation, governments, education, medical, housing, recreational, re-

ligious and business use," Wesely said.

Included in the exhibit is work from Charles McAfee, a distinguished alumnus of the Professional Advisory Counsel of Architecture at UNL.

Mark Hoistad, an associate professor of architecture, said the college brought in the exhibit to attract students, especially women and minorities.

The exhibit will be on display in the Architecture Hall gallery from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., every weekday during February.

A sense of place

Learning Community keeps freshmen afloat at college

By Julie Sobczyk
Senior Reporter

When UNL freshman Dustin Nutter was a senior in high school, he was a little anxious about coming to college.

The large number of students, lecture classes and just being away from home can make many freshmen uneasy, and Nutter was no exception.

"I'm a little shy," he said. "I was nervous about coming."

But a program new this year to the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's Division of General Studies has created a group environment to help put undeclared freshman at ease.

The Freshman Learning Community, which began last semester, encourages new students to get involved on campus and tries to keep undeclared freshmen from dropping out of school, said Don Gregory, director of general studies.

"This is an attempt to provide a small community inside the larger college community," Gregory said. "We want to give them daily contact, so they can get to know each other."

Research has shown, he said, that 25 percent of freshmen drop out of

"This is an attempt to provide a small community inside the larger college community."

DON GREGORY

director of general studies

something, they're more likely to stay."

In its first year, the program involves 62 freshmen, he said. The women live on the fifth floor of Schramm Residence Hall, and the men on the sixth floor.

Living together helps promote community among the group, he said. Taking at least three classes together also helps strengthen the freshmen community.

All students in the program take English 150, Political Science 100 and University Foundations, Gregory said.

"This adds to the support," he said.

See FRESHMEN on 3

Blank checks speed up purchasing

By Julie Sobczyk
Senior Reporter

It might seem odd that UNL mails signed, blank checks to vendors — but one university official says it's the most convenient way to shop.

Bill Bode, director of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's purchasing department, said many departments used the Quick Service/Quick Pay system.

Checks, which have only a university signature at the bottom and

the vendor's name at the top, are mailed to the selling company, he said.

But some restrictions do exist. "These would be for small dollar transactions," he said. "It's for when we have an estimated idea, but not the exact dollar amount."

Any purchases less than \$500 are considered small transactions, he said. Departments can make these transactions without consulting the UNL purchasing department.

When vendors receive the blank

checks and the order forms, Bode said, they are required to fill in the exact dollar amount of the purchase.

"The order tells the vendor what we want and the amounts for the vendor to fill in," he said. "We expect the vendors to be honest with us."

And so far, honesty has been the best policy.

"In all the years, I'm only aware of one problem when we felt a ven-

See CHECKS on 3

Bill for joint custody attracts attention

By Erin Schulte
Staff Reporter

Divorced parents voiced strong opinions on a child custody bill presented Wednesday to the Nebraska Legislature's Judiciary Committee.



The bill, LB1312, changes the standing law by ending the requirement that joint custody can be

obtained only by mutual consent, and that joint custody would be given first consideration as an option by the courts.

Many non-custodial fathers testified at the committee hearing in favor of the bill, saying they were tired of being visitors and wanted to be parents.

Scott Allen, a non-custodial parent of two children, said his rights were violated by the courts and he was humiliated by not being given joint custody. Because his wife did not want joint custody, it could not even be discussed in court, he said.

Allen said fathers should have a

greater role in their children's lives than just helping financially. He urged senators not to look at fathers "just as a pocketbook."

Sen. Ernie Chambers of Omaha, a committee member, said the idea may not work because if parents couldn't agree on enough things to remain married, they would not agree on child-rearing issues.

Chambers gave the example of religious differences, such as ex-spouses who practice different faiths, as an issue that could not be resolved easily.

If the child is in joint custody, both

See CUSTODY on 3