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THURSDAY

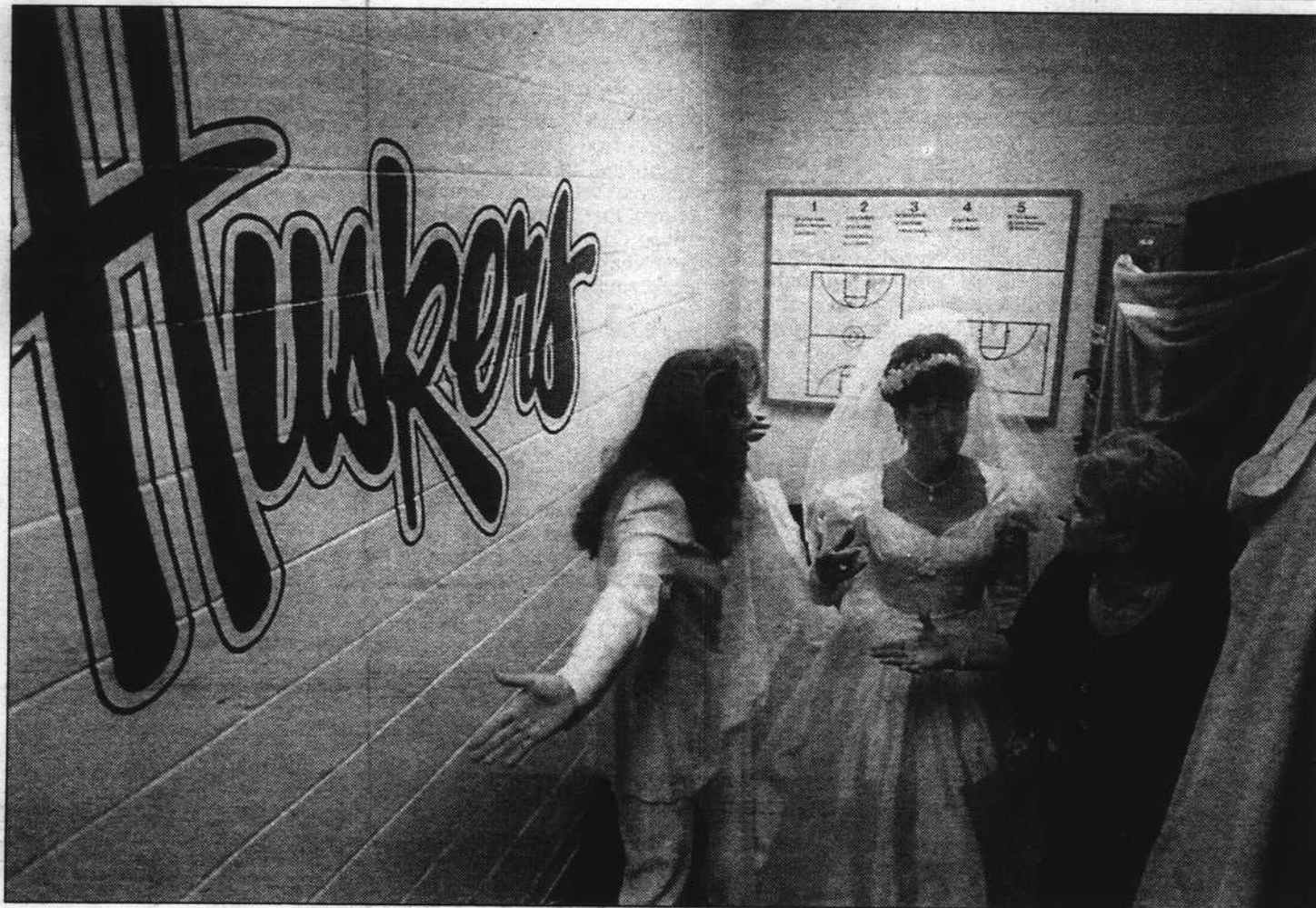
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WEATHER:

Today - Blustery and cloudy. North wind 20 to 35 mph.

Tonight - Mostly clear, low around 5 to 10 above.

February 15, 1996



Gov. Nelson files to run for Senate

By Todd Anderson
Staff Reporter

After officially filing to run for the Democratic nomination for U.S. Senate on Wednesday morning, Gov. Ben Nelson re-emphasized his commitment to bipartisan representation.

"People in Nebraska are tired of gridlock and deadlock," he said at a press conference in the State Capitol. "I intend to be the independent voice of reason."

Nelson said his record spoke for itself. "In the past I've supported solutions that just make good sense. Partisanship gets in the way of the best interests of Nebraska."

Nelson also addressed the issue of campaign spending, saying he intended to run a "well-financed and well-funded campaign."

"I've earned and saved, and I'll continue to be thrifty," he said.

"We've seen from the results of the Iowa caucuses ... that you can spend a lot of money and not win it."

Nelson also expressed the need for limiting the growth of government.

"My focus is on returning the responsibility of power back to the people," he said.

He noted the importance of "downsizing" the federal government without "downloading" responsibilities onto the states.

Nelson said he supported reorganizing government agencies such as the Environmental Protection Agency, the Department of Health and Human Services, and the Department of Education.

When asked about gambling, Nelson said people "have made up their minds whether they favor it. I supported the (Nebraska) lottery ... but I drew the line there."

Nelson said English also should be recognized as the official language of the United States, but not the only language.

"We need to reach out to work together and unify, not to divide," he said.

Nelson faces no opposition in the Democratic primary. Nebraska Attorney General Don Stenberg and Omaha businessman Chuck Hagel square off in the Republican race.

"My focus is on returning the responsibility of power back to the people."

BEN NELSON
Nebraska governor

Holding court

Lorie Everson, along with her maid of honor, Marcia Olsen, left, and her mother, Birdie Krcmarik, have a pre-wedding discussion in a locker room at the Bob Devaney Sports Center. Everson and her groom, Randy Chrastil, were married during half-time of the NU-Colorado women's basketball game Valentine's Day evening. "It's the biggest wedding that I'll ever be at," the groom said after the ceremony. (Photos by Travis Heying/DN)



Senator looks to curtail smoking

By Ted Taylor
Senior Reporter

Elm Creek Sen. Ed Schrock wants to take Joe Camel, the Marlboro Man and all their "smokin'" buddies off Nebraska billboards.



Schrock's bill, LB1105, would prohibit billboard advertising in Nebraska for all tobacco products and require current advertisements to be removed by Jan. 1, 1997.

"The reason I've introduced this bill," Schrock said during his closing remarks, "is because every time I see an underage person lighting up, I just cringe."

If passed, the bill would carry a \$500 fine for the first offense. A second and all subsequent offenses would warrant a \$600 to \$3,000 fine.

But Schrock admitted that his bill may have to wait until next session to get the full debate it deserved.

"This bill was drafted hastily and rather vaguely," he said. "It's very apparent that it will have to be reintroduced next year."

Schrock said after the hearing that someone would have to prioritize the bill for it to be heard this session.

But if it were put on hold until next session, he said he would be very interested in prioritizing it himself.

"The committee was very receptive," Schrock said.

Committee chairman Don Wesely said the committee decided to hold the bill for further — which could take place as soon as today.

"I'm supportive of the bill," said Wesely, a senator from Lincoln. "I don't think promoting tobacco use is a very good idea."

Other proponents of LB1105 focused on curtailing young people from taking up smoking.

Sherry Miller, president of the Nebraska Congress of Parents and Teachers, said her organization's initial reaction was not to support the bill.

"And then common sense took over and said: PTA can support it and will!"

Miller said the measure did seem a bit harsh, but the concept was definitely needed.

"It may be just what the tobacco industry needs to face up to its guilty

See BILLBOARDS on 2

Moeser says he will protect student ticket prices, seats

By Kasey Kerber
Staff Reporter

ASUN on Wednesday night approved a bill calling on Chancellor James Moeser to order the Athletic Department not to reduce or change football student seating without his approval.



Moeser attended the meeting and addressed the Association of Students of the University of Nebraska after the bill was passed.

ASUN President Shawntell Hurtgen said she hoped Moeser would comment on the bill.

Moeser made only a brief comment on the measure near the end of his speech, saying that ASUN and the student body had his full support on the issue and promising that no student seating changes would be made without his approval and input from the student body.

Moeser instead spoke about Gov. Ben Nelson's decision not to include a \$7 million allocation for salary increases in the university's budget.

Moeser appealed to the student body for assistance in the matter.

"The university is faced with a

See ASUN on 3