

# Daily Nebraskan

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**TUESDAY**

**WEATHER:**

**Today - Partly sunny & mild. South wind 10 to 20 mph.**

**Tonight - Becoming mostly cloudy, low around 40.**



March 12, 1996

## Dole predicts seven-state super sweep

By Tom Raum  
The Associated Press

SAN ANTONIO — Sen. Bob Dole said Monday he was looking for signals that his remaining rivals would join him in his bid for the presidency, and he predicted a seven-state "Super Tuesday" sweep.

A flurry of predictions and offers marked the day before the largest number of delegates are dished out.

Publisher Steve Forbes rejected an offer by former Housing Secretary Jack Kemp to broker a deal with the Dole campaign. Commentator Pat Buchanan said he's in no mood to negotiate an exit either.

"I've told our folks there are no negotiations," Buchanan said while campaigning in Oklahoma. "We're going forward to that nomination."

Dole clearly was enjoying himself as he wrapped up a five-day swing through "Super Tuesday" states with a rally on San Antonio's river walk.

"I know the sun is shining on the Dole campaign," he said. He traveled the final few blocks to the waterfront rally by barge, serenaded by a Mariachi band.

"If I'm not mistaken, we're going to win every one of the seven," Dole told about 1,000 supporters. But, characteristic of Dole's caution, he added, "Of course, I've been mistaken before."

This is the Senate majority leader's third bid for the GOP nomination.

At stake today are 362 delegates, 221 of them in Texas and Florida. Going into today's contests, Dole had 392 delegates, more than a third of the 996 needed to clinch the nomination.

Earlier Monday, at a news conference in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., Dole referred to his two remaining GOP rivals and said he was "looking for signals to indicate a willingness to come on board."

House Speaker Newt Gingrich, speaking to reporters in Atlanta, warned that Buchanan and Forbes would have less influence on the Republican platform the longer they stayed in the race.

"The fact is, this is now a Bob Dole team, and Bob Dole has won the nomination for all practical purposes," Gingrich said.

## GIMME A BREAK



**TOP:** Shannon Bryant, a senior international affairs major, juggles with devil sticks outside the Nebraska Union on Monday afternoon. **ABOVE:** Natalie Hipschman, a senior French and English major, and Joshua Killman, a sophomore finance and economics major, study and eat lunch in the greenspace. Photos by Tanna Kinnaman/DN

## Legislature advances merger bill

By Ted Taylor  
Senior Reporter

After more than eight hours of debate spanning three days, a proposal that would "streamline" the administration of five state health and human service agencies is one step away from becoming law.



Lincoln Sen. Don Wesely's LB1044, which would merge five state agencies into three, advanced to final reading Monday by a 25-13 vote.

Wesely said the bill was one of the most important he'd dealt with in his 18 years in the Legislature.

"This bill is huge," he said after the vote. "Especially when you realize it affects 6,000 employees. And there are 3,000 more tied to it indirectly."

The Nebraska Partnership Project, which should receive its final reading before the Legislature next week, would merge and restructure the departments of social services, health, aging, and public institutions.

The merger also includes the Office of Juvenile Services — a department of the state correctional agency.

Jon Hill, juvenile services director, said the agency was looking forward to "sharing and collaborating" with the other agencies involved in the merger.

"It makes good sense to look at developing more community involvement," he said, "and having a stronger state and community partnership."

Hill said that cooperation from the beginning among the agencies also would be a benefit to the children his agency served.

Senators spent Monday morning discussing final amendments to the bill, including a failed one introduced by Sen. Dave Maurstad of Beatrice.

His amendment, in hopes of giving lawmakers more time to look at the benefits of the bill, would have moved the implementation of the merger from Dec. 1, 1996, to March 15, 1997.

Sen. Kate Witek, the only senator who voted against advancing the bill from general file, said it was not yet in legislative form.

"This bill is entirely a concept," the Omaha senator said. "Give us something we can legislate, not some green-bill concept."

Political pressure from outside lobbies, Witek said, marred the bill from the beginning.

"This is the most politicized bill I've seen

See **MERGER** on 6

## Recycling program among nation's best

By Julie Sobczyk  
Senior Reporter

It's a dirty job, but Dale Ekart doesn't mind doing it.

Recycling, that is.

And Ekart is cleaning up as the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's recycling coordinator. For the past two years, he has turned a program that didn't even exist into an efficient and successful one.

Two years ago, Ekart said, there were only a few recycling bins in the residence halls and in the Nebraska Union.

But now, all of the buildings on campus have bins for aluminum, cardboard, office paper and newspaper, he said.

"We coordinated everything and

put it into a cohesive program," Ekart said. "One thing we really offered was a collection system."

Each week, Ekart and his team of three student workers collect about 50 tons of recyclables from across campus.

"The program grew faster than we prepared for it," he said. "The response was outstanding. We couldn't keep up with it."

Last year, that amount added up to 700 tons of recyclables, mostly cardboard and paper, Ekart said. The program spends about \$35,000 on recycling that amount.

Compared to 50 schools that attended the National Recycling Conference last September, he said, UNL's program is in the top 10 nationwide.

"We're not spending a lot of money

for the amount of tons we're getting, compared to other schools," he said. "We're getting a lot for our dollar."

"Other schools spend \$100,000 and are only getting 300 to 400 tons."

Because the program is only in its second year, he said, he was surprised to find it ranked highly among other universities.

"We were amazed," Ekart said. "We felt our program was doing well, but we didn't know how well."

Most buildings on campus are recycling cans and paper, he said.

"We pick up at least some items from every place on campus," Ekart said. "Every building and everybody can do something."

Twice a year, Ekart and his staff dig through trash bins to make sure people aren't throwing away materials that

can be recycled.

"We check to see if people are throwing the good stuff in with the bad," he said. "We found virtually everybody is doing an outstanding job."

This year, Ekart said, he plans to break even with the amount spent on recycling and the amount he gets back from recycling the materials.

"It's just like selling corn," he said. "You don't know what you will produce until you're all done. You can guess the volume, but you don't really know until it's over."

Last year, the program gained back the amount of money spent — and then some, he said.

Although Ekart would not say how much profit was gained, he said the

See **RECYCLE** on 6

