

ASUN to vote on ballot initiatives

Senators will take an official stance on 411 and 412 at tonight's meeting.

By TASHA E. KELTER
Staff Reporter

ASUN senators at tonight's meeting will vote on a bill stating student government's official position on Initiatives 411 and 412, which would require the state to provide a "quality education" for K-12 students while reducing the property taxes that help fund education.

Because all public schools are

funded in part by property taxes, the Association of the Students of the University of Nebraska President Eric Marintzer said the initiatives would force the state to make up for the shortfall in funding to schools.

He said the money would have to come from income tax increases, sales or service tax increases, or cutting budgets of some state government departments.

Marintzer said UNL historically has been disproportionately effected by funding cuts. The potential is there, he said, to have an increase in tuition, a decrease in student services and "basically a lesser university."

Although Marintzer said student government realized the importance of tax relief, he still does not support cutting property taxes in this case.

"When it's at the expense of education it's not worth it," he said.

Marintzer said his goal is to educate students and, if possible, the students' parents about the effect the bills would have on the university, and to send the message to legislators that such actions are opposed by university students.

"It's important that lawmakers know how important the university is to our state," he said.

Also at the meeting, junior business major Stephanie Sessler will discuss concerns about the lighting on City Campus.

In other ASUN news, the Government Liaison Committee will have a mock election Tuesday. Students can vote at the Nebraska and East Campus Unions.

Lighting poses safety issue

From Staff Reports

The Chancellor's Committee for Campus Safety has released a report detailing possible safety problems across the UNL campus.

The report, a result of last week's Campus Safety Walk, lists several problems and recommendations for City Campus; only one for East Campus.

Construction work at Burnett Hall has caused lighting systems south of Burnett, west of Love North and east of Hamilton Hall to fail, the report said.

The north-south sidewalk between Oldfather Hall and Avery

Hall also is inadequately lighted, according to the report. The commission recommended installing three additional pole lights for the area.

The report listed several problems near Richards Hall, Behlen-Brace Laboratory. Another problem area is where sidewalks converge east of Architecture Hall and Sheldon Art Gallery and north of Kimball Hall. That area is lighted from the ground up, the report said, causing trees and plants to obscure the lighting.

The Sheldon Sculpture Garden will get a new, permanent lamp to provide much better lighting, the report said.

Custodians find job satisfying, frustrating

CUSTODIAN from page 1

dents pay a lot of money to come here, so it should be kept clean for them," Hladik said.

But money isn't an issue for the custodians coming to UNL.

Craig Thelen, Abel building service technician, said the wage was above minimum level and comparable to other university jobs.

"If you stay here 10 or 15 years, you'll make about as much as you would at any other job in 10 or 15 years," Thelen said.

For almost 10 years, Hladik and six other custodians have been driving 25 miles to and from their homes in Valparaiso each day.

"It's hard to get to work sometimes in the winter, but they tell us we're essential," Hladik said. "They would like to have us at work every day."

Whatever their motivations for staying on the job, residence hall custodians said they do become frustrated with the messes and vandalism left behind by what turns out to be a minority of students.

Marilyn Kahler, Abel-Sandoz custodian, said that the problems might be dissolved if some students were to change their mode of thinking.

"We would just like them to not do anything that they wouldn't do in their own home," Kahler said.

Carol Woita also said students needed to change their thinking toward keeping their residence hall clean.

"I think that it would be nice if there was a little more respect for the hall, instead of thinking that someone will pick everything up," said Woita, who also works at Abel Hall.

Some students do take time to stop to thank custodians, the workers said.

"They remember me at Christmastime or at the end of the year with gifts or gift certificates," Hladik said.

Woita said the most rewarding thanks often come from visitors.

"When parents or strangers come in and say how clean everything looks, I appreciate it," Woita said.

In the end, though, a custodian's job always comes back to helping students.

Hladik said a sort of "motherly instinct" accompanied her custodial job, and it motivated her to make everything clean and right for students on every floor.

"I want the people on my floor to be able to walk in the bathrooms barefoot," Hladik said.

"Yet, it's hard. I have one hour on each floor to clean, and 23 hours when things might not stay clean."

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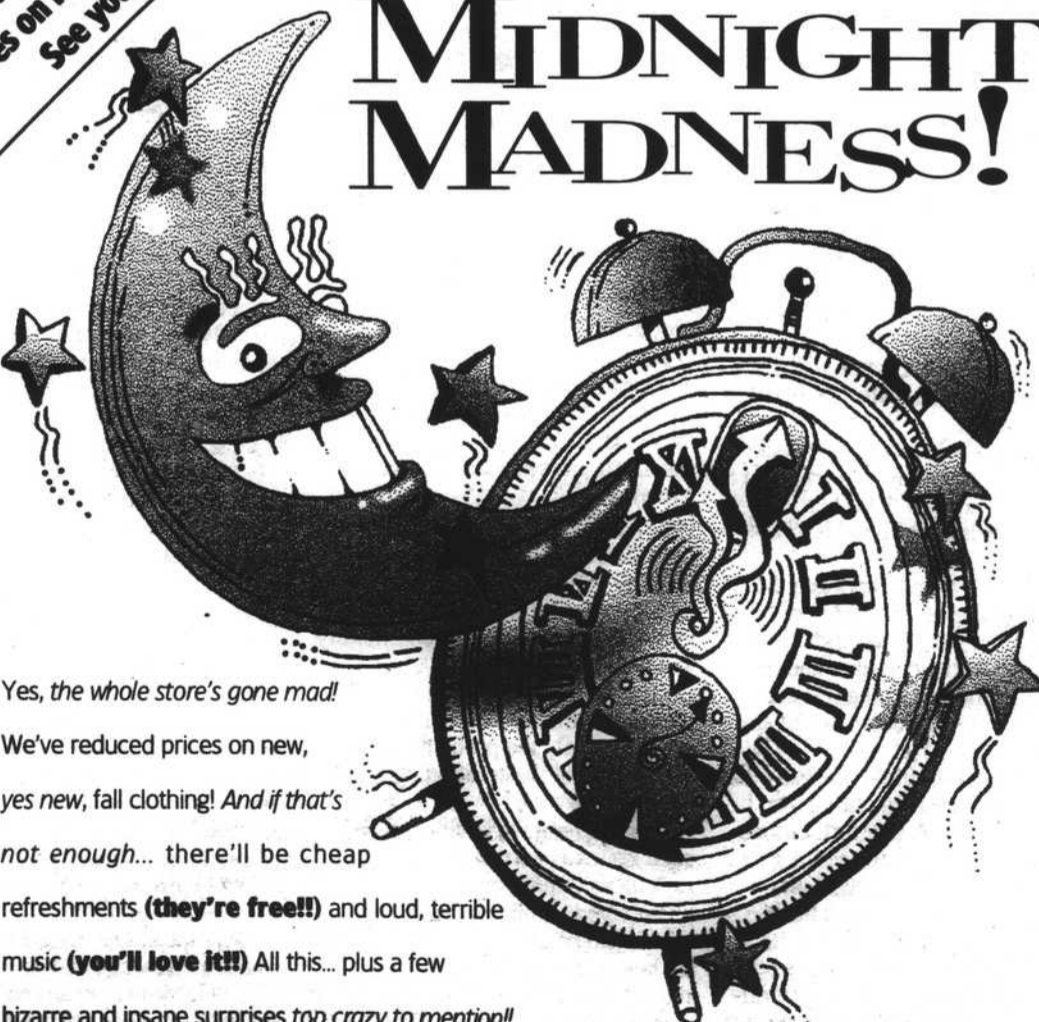
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