

It's a fan thing

Attendance is down at Nebraska men's basketball games. The reasons? Find out in the third of the three-part State of the Huskers report. **PAGE 7**



Practicing what you teach

UNL Professor Marly Swick has published her second novel, "Evening News." In March she goes on a national tour. **PAGE 9**

January 27, 1999

CLOUDED VISION

Cloudy and breezy, high 42. Cloudy tonight, low 20.

Daily Nebraskan

VOL. 98

COVERING THE UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA-LINCOLN SINCE 1901

NO. 88

Take the long way home



LANE HICKENBOTTOM/DN

TRENT ANDERSON, a junior English and education major, walks home over the 10th Street overpass Tuesday after a day of classes at UNL.

Jury still out on long-haired law student

By Ieva Augstums
Senior staff writer

NU College of Law administrators and professors found themselves tangled up with a hairy issue Tuesday after one of their students was denied permission to argue misdemeanor cases in court this semester.

Thayne Glenn, a third-year NU law student, was told he could not participate in the Criminal Clinic offered through Lancaster County Attorney Gary Lacey's office unless he cut a substantial part of his shoulder-length hair.

Some NU professors are questioning whether students can be discriminated against based on their appearance, though Lacey stands behind his decision.

"I understand (Lacey's) rationale. It's a very conservative establishment," Glenn said. "However, this has become an issue of principle."

Glenn has never met Lacey.

"He made his decision, and I made mine," Glenn said. "I wasn't going to cut my hair."

When contacted by the Daily Nebraskan, Lacey would not comment on his reasons for not letting Glenn attend the clinic.

Students who participate in the clinic, which is offered only to third-year law students in good standing, are chosen through a lottery process.

Please see **HAIR** on 6

School aid issue delayed

By SHANE ANTHONY
Staff writer

Legislature



The Legislature delayed its first vote Tuesday on a \$22 million school-aid question.

Citing recent comments in newspapers, Sen. Ardyce Bohlke of Hastings asked the Legislature for unanimous consent to pass over LB149. No one voiced any objections.

Bohlke said she wanted to eliminate concerns about rushing into the bill.

Gov. Mike Johanns has expressed concerns about the bill, which is intended to prevent a \$22 million cut in school aid next year and change the formula that determines that aid. Johanns is expected to address the issue today in his State of the State Address.

"His objective, or the goal he would like to see everyone set, is to see greater predictability and stability in the finance formula," said Chris Peterson, Johanns' press secretary.

Bohlke testified earlier to the Education Committee that the bill was intended to provide more predictability and stability.

Peterson said part of Johanns' concern was that an LB149 provision setting the local effort rate — a major component in calculating state aid — at 10 cents below the maximum levy rate could cause more instability, he said.

A recalculation of state aid that schools learned about Dec. 1 sparked

LB149. That recalculation showed the schools received \$22 million more in state aid this year than they should have. Under current law, schools would be required to pay back that \$22 million by cuts in next year's budget.

Johanns will propose spending \$576 million for school aid next year,

"It's too important to have anyone feel that they are being rushed to a decision."

ARDYCE BOHLKE
Hastings senator

Peterson said — \$22 million less than what has been certified to schools this year. The next year, he said, Johanns would propose spending \$594 million.

But Bohlke said forcing districts to pay back the money could hurt schools and work against property tax relief — two ideas she said are important to her constituents. Schools learned how much state aid they would receive this year on Dec. 1, 1997. They are currently spending that money, she said.

If they are forced to pay back the \$22 million next year, she said, schools would have to either cut programs or seek a property tax raise to survive.

"It brings a halt to the course we've been on over the past couple of years," she said. The combination of a number of bills led to the violent swing, she said.

"It's our mess," Peterson said Johanns wants to look at LB149 in terms of the total budget picture. If the Legislature takes the time to look at tax relief and wait for a clearer picture of what LB149 would do, lawmakers could make a more informed decision, he said.

Bohlke said she asked to pass over the bill because she did not want to rush it through.

The Education Committee advanced the bill quickly so senators could talk to their school districts and determine whether or not they support it. She said she expected the bill to come before the Legislature again next week.

"It's too important to have anyone feel that they are being rushed to a decision," she said.

If the bill moves to general file, she said, the next step — a vote to place it on select file — would not occur until at least March 15. By that time, she said, the Department of Education would have a corrected state-aid picture.

The bill does need to pass by April 1, so schools could have time to make staffing decisions by an April 15 deadline, she said.

UNL Latino fraternity ready to make an impact

By VERONICA DAEHN
Staff writer

Greeks

chance to join the fraternity this semester, Phillips said.

A meeting for prospective members will be held Feb. 8 at 6:30 p.m. in the Nebraska Union Colonial room. Phillips encouraged anyone interested to attend, as the fraternity is not exclusively Latino.

"Anyone who is willing to commit their time and put in hard work (can be a member)," Phillips said.

Patrick Luis Foster, a sophomore Sigma Lambda Beta member, said his experience has been beneficial.

Though he wasn't involved in a failed attempt to start the fraternity two years ago, Foster said he was inspired to start a chapter after attending the United States Hispanic Leadership Conference in October 1997.

"We felt we needed a home for ourselves," Foster said. "Since the greek system is predominantly white, we wanted to let people know we were here."

Please see **LATINO** on 6

With the support of the greek system, some members of the UNL Latino community are working to expand a fraternity and, in the future, maybe even start a sorority.

Sigma Lambda Beta Fraternity, a traditionally non-exclusive Latino fraternity, gained membership in the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's greek system last November.

Since then, President Jose Phillips and the group's eight other members have been making plans for the fraternity's future.

This semester, Phillips said Sigma Lambda Beta members will focus their energy on helping with an after school program for Latino youth.

"With this program, we'll not only better the community, but ourselves, too," he said.

The fraternity originated last spring when Phillips and fellow member, junior Juan Izaguirre, held a meeting for those interested in joining.

New members will have a