

DailyNebraskan

This is the year many say
**humble Keyuo Craver will break
out**
In SportsWednesday/10



World-class musician
**Anoushka Shankar will
play traditional Indian
music at the Lied tonight**
In Arts/8

Conrad Bakker brings a
warped view of reality to
the Sheldon Art Gallery
In Arts/8



Agency wish lists exceed state budget

BY GEORGE GREEN

The biennial budget battle that pits state agencies, the legislature and the governor against each other has begun.

State agencies submitted their two-year budget proposals, which exceed expected state revenue by \$500 million, to the governor's budget office on Sept. 15, said Chris Peterson, a spokesman for the governor.

The agencies are requesting \$5.8 billion for the two-year fiscal season that begins July 1, 2001. But state revenue is expected to be only \$5.3 billion, he said.

"It always starts out looking bad," he said. Peterson said the proposals are only the first step in a 10-month-long budget process.

He said the governor will review the agency proposals "line by line" and submit his budget proposal. The Legislature will then form its own budget in mid-May for the governor to sign or veto.

During the 10-month process, the budget will change several times, he said.

For the state to afford the \$500 million budget overrun the agencies requested, state taxes would have to be raised, Peterson said.

But, as promised during his campaign, Gov. Mike Johanns is "committed to not raising taxes," Peterson said.

To ensure taxes remain steady, state agencies will have to pare their spending - or be forced by the Legislature and governor to do so, he said.

Peterson said the governor will decide which

spending proposals can be trimmed and which proposals involve money that citizens are legally entitled to, such as Medicaid benefits.

Choosing which proposals have room to be cut will be "a lot of work" because of the large number of requests, he said.

Agencies' requests include the following:

■ The Department of Corrections requested \$35 million to fund four capital construction projects, said Steve King, planning and research manager.

King said one of the four projects is at the Nebraska Correctional Center for Women in York, which needs new housing and expanded food and laundry services.

Other capital projects are at the Omaha Correctional Center and the Diagnostic and

Evaluation Center in Lincoln. Both need control center improvements, he said.

"Control centers are literally the most hectic areas in the prison and need to be updated," King said.

■ Rising operational costs prompted the State Patrol to push spending figures up further, said John Little, a finance and accounting manager.

The State Patrol requested \$746,000 each year, which is a 30 percent increase in spending, Little said.

Increases in gas prices and expanding numbers of patrol vehicles forced operational expenses up, he said.

The patrol is losing grant money from the Copsmore Office, a division of the U.S. Justice

Please see WISH LIST on 5

PRIDE OF NEBRASKA: The drumline provides the rhythm for the UNL Marching Band during a Tuesday morning rehearsal. The band took to Tom Osborne Field at 7:30 a.m. in preparation for this weekend's half-time show at the Nebraska-Missouri football game.



Sharon Kolbet/DN

Nebraskans won't get cold feet this winter

BY GEORGE GREEN

Weather experts said it won't be time to pack away shorts and T-shirts anytime soon.

The National Weather Service predicts this winter will be slightly warmer than average, said Brian Smith, a meteorologist.

"We shouldn't get too cold," he said. But, he said, this winter will be colder than previous winters, which have been exceptionally warm.

The Farmer's Almanac, an annual publication that predicts the weather based on a secret astronomical formula, agrees that shorts and T-shirts will be around for a while, said Sandi Duncan, the book's managing editor.

In fact, the secret formula contradicts the weather services' prediction and anticipates a winter that will be even more mild than last year's balmy season, she said.

Duncan said Nebraska, part of the north-central state zone, will have a rainy October with possible heavy snow in November.

Be prepared to slice turkey on Thanksgiving and sing carols on Christmas with snow on the ground, she said.

The weather service agrees precipitation will be slightly higher than normal, Smith said.

Typically, Smith said, Lincoln receives 26 inches of snow each winter with the first flakes usually falling around Nov. 19.

Average temperatures hover in the mid-20s during the winter months of December, January and February, with January having the coldest average temperature of 21 degrees, he said.

Smith said average temperature statistics, though, can be misleading.

Meteorologists calculate the statistics by averaging the maximum and minimum monthly temperatures over a 30-year period, he said.

The Farmer's Almanac uses a different procedure to help anxious people judge when to break out their warm coats, Duncan said.

The Almanac has a confidential predictor who uses the alias Caleb Weatherbee, she said.

Weatherbee is the master of a 184-year-old formula that uses the

Whether you subscribe to the scientific forecasts of the National Weather Service or the folklore predictions of the venerable Farmer's Almanac, both agree that we're in for a wet winter with warmer than average temperatures.

Wet, warm, winter

National Weather Service	Farmer's Almanac
Warmer-than-average winter	Warmer-than-average winter
Colder than winter 1999	Warmer than winter 1999
Higher-than-normal precipitation	Rainy October, snowy November

Melanie Falk/DN

Please see WEATHER on 5

ASUN hopes bill builds partner-benefit support

BY MARGARET BEHM

Student government leaders said they hoped passing a bill in favor of domestic partner benefits today would spur campuswide action on the issue.

"Hopefully it will further the cause in the fight for domestic partner benefits for faculty," ASUN President Joel Schafer said.

The Association of Students of the University of Nebraska vote this evening on whether to pass a bill supporting domestic partner benefits for faculty members, staff and students.

Student government passed by a wide margin a similar bill last year.

Schafer said passing this bill is critical for the image the uni-

ASUN

versity reflects.

"Domestic partner benefits are important because we need to show that we are committed to having a welcoming environment at the University of Nebraska at Lincoln, for all," he said.

English professor George Wolf said the bill shows students are in favor of domestic partner benefits.

"It's a statement by the students of what ought to be the case," Wolf said.

Currently, only UNL students can receive domestic partner

Please see ASUN on 5

Boys misunderstood, therapist says

BY SHARON KOLBET

Boys will be boys. And family therapist Michael Gurian thinks parents - and society - should accept this.

The nationally renowned author and therapist spoke to a Lincoln audience Tuesday night, passing on his belief that adolescent boys are misunderstood and lack identity.

Society may try to lump boys and girls into an androgynous framework, but boys are fundamentally different from girls, Gurian said.

The therapist, based in Spokane, Wash., presented his ideas at BryanLGH Medical Center East. About 400 people attended the lecture, which is part of the hospital's ongoing community health education program.

Gurian's ideas about boys have been criticized among psychologists.

His views contrast with those of Harvard psychiatrist William Pollack, author of the book "Real Boys: Rescuing Our Sons from the Myths of Boyhood."

Pollack said the real problem lies in the emotional repression of young boys.

Gurian said that one of the biggest problems for boys in our culture is that adults, especially women, need to be educated about the nature of boys.

As the author of eight books on the moral development of boys, Gurian said, he tries to reach parents and "teach them the science of their sons."

"Boys are driven by their testosterone. Their brains are less organized than females' brains," Gurian said.

"Because of this they need a lot of care to figure out how to

Please see GURIAN on 5



Sharon Kolbet/DN
Michael Gurian, therapist and author, speaks to a crowd of about 400 at the BryanLGH Medical Center East Tuesday evening. Gurian has become nationally known for his books on the moral development of adolescent boys.