

DOLLARS AND SENSE BRIEFLY

No grades at UNL... Students failing classes at the U. of Nebraska won't find out about their grades through uniform grade reports this year because of budget cuts. Eliminating the reports will save UNL about \$4,000, said James Griesen, vice chancellor for student affairs. The cut is in response to a Nebraska legislative mandate that called for UNL to trim its budget 2 percent this year and 1 percent next year. In the past, professors sent midterm reports to students who were failing classes. Griesen said he hasn't heard any negative feedback about the decision and that information on a student's progress can be relayed in other ways. ■ Sarah Duey, *The Daily Nebraskan*, U. of Nebraska

Check this out, Einstein... What goes up doesn't always come down. At least that's what Greg Eastman says.

Eastman, a senior at the U. of Kansas, spent several months studying the influence of lotteries on state economies. Instead of trickling down, money generated by the lottery may actually trickle up.



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Many states make millions of dollars on lotteries, but not all redistribute the revenue to programs that help low-income citizens, Eastman said. Kansas lottery sales totaled \$70.3 million in 1991, \$33 million of which was awarded in prizes. ■ Melissa Rodgers, *The University Daily Kansan*, U. of Kansas.

2+2=Fear... Everyone has heard of writer's block, but what about math block? Math anxiety is a problem with measurable effects, said Pamela Warwick, director of the Psycho-educational Clinic at Ohio State U. "Often there are very real physical symptoms like heart palpitations, fear of class and very real anxiety to the point of not being able to enter a math class," Warwick said. "Math anxiety can play a role in making decisions like whether to attend graduate school," said Beth Ackerman, a doctoral candidate and student counselor at the clinic. "It has a critical filtering effect, because, in making life choices, many people opt out of careers that require a math background," said Judy Genschaft, chairwoman of OSU's Department of Educational Services and Research. ■ Margaret Franklin, *The Lantern*, Ohio State U.

Rising costs jeopardize tuition plan

By MATTHEW HUTCHISON
The State News, Michigan State U.

The country's first college tuition guarantee program, which allowed Michigan parents to pay in advance for their children's college education, may be suspended because of escalating tuition increases, according to state officials.

Gov. John Engler said parents should be charged more money or the program should be eliminated because tuition at Michigan's 15 public universities has increased 8.8 percent annually since the start of the program.

When the program was established in

1988, lawmakers expected tuition to increase by a modest 7.3 percent per year.

State Treasurer Doug Roberts said Michigan Educational Trust's future is questionable if tuition increases continue at such a high rate.

To enroll a child in the program, parents pay a base amount, which is invested by the state. The state pays the tuition when the child enters college. In 1990, the cost to enroll a newborn in MET was \$2,100.

No new enrollments in the MET program will be accepted until the program's solvency is assured, the MET board of directors recently said.

Democratic lawmakers counter the

Republican governor's stance, claiming the program is overfunded by \$10 million and will not falter. They want Engler to guarantee that MET, established by a former Democratic governor, will not get axed.

"(Engler) prefers to see tuition costs skyrocket and to keep children of middle-class from being afforded a college education," said Steve Serkaian, spokesman for Democratic House speaker Lewis Dodak.

Engler does not want MET to fail, spokesman John Truscott said, and to ensure the security of the 55,000 existing contracts he is urging state lawmakers to pass legislation that protects the MET purchasers.

Sex, drugs and... Students sell it for science

By COLLEEN BRUSH and DAVID GUARINO
The Northeastern News, Northeastern U.

Do you have sex, smoke pot or drink regularly, and need some extra cash?

Researchers across the country, many of whom use federal funds, are advertising in student newspapers for college-age test subjects in hopes of discovering the effects of marijuana use, gauging the sex habits of males and testing new drugs on asthma sufferers. And they offer students some extra income.

Joe Bowman, a senior at the U. of Nebraska, has participated in eight studies at Harris Labs, a research facility in Lincoln. Bowman spent 20 days at the facility two summers ago for the study and got \$2,000.

"When I was a freshman I did a high blood pressure medicine study that gave us all high blood pressure instead of lowering it," Bowman said. "They always want to measure the amount of drug in your blood." There was one day when they took his blood 20 times.

"It was sheer hell, and I'll never do it again," he added. "You go insane."

Rich Higgins, a UNL junior who has participated in five studies, said that while boredom is common during the studies, they are easy money.

"A lot of people tell me it's a lot like jail," Higgins said. "You have to eat at a certain time. You have to go to bed at a certain time."

Many students find out about the studies through ads placed in their campus newspapers. One study being conducted in the Boston area and advertised in *The Northeastern News* is seeking students who have smoked marijuana for at least two years.

The three-year study will require 160 participants, said Dr. Harrison Pope. Twenty-two have been tested so far. He added that the students are ensured "absolute confidentiality."

"Students come in on the first afternoon and are supervised



BRIAN SHELLITO, THE DAILY NEBRASKAN, U. OF NEBRASKA

overnight for a 24-hour period prior to the testing," Pope said. "The following day, they receive a battery of neuropsychological tests involving pen and paper tests and assembling blocks into boards and reconstructing them by memory, that sort of thing."

Another study, advertised in the U. of Massachusetts newspaper, is using students to test new drugs which curtail the effects of aspirin on asthma sufferers.

The study, which pays students up to \$1,300, is looking for males or infertile females who are mild to moderate asthma sufferers. The survey requires participants to take blood and breathing tests, have chest X-rays and return for multiple visits over an eight-week period.

"They come in for four visits, keep diaries at home and continue to take the medication through that period," Rosenberg said.

He said the survey takes a total of about 24 to 36 hours to complete.

Chris Hoffensperger, The Daily Nebraskan, U. of Nebraska, contributed to this story.

Cuts

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cutting their own costs.

"We tried to get a sense of which units of the university cost money to run and which make money and can support others," said David Rubin, dean of SU's Newhouse School for Public Communications.

Each university program and division was judged, he said, on the criteria of "quality, centrality and demand" to assess which were most important to the school. Those programs were ranked, he said, but the committee made no specific recommendations on which areas to cut. That decision will be left to the school's new chancellor, Kenneth Shaw.

Before Shaw makes the final determination in January, students and faculty will be asked for their input as well. "The university has promised to meet all commitments to students," Rubin added, ensuring that no students will be left without courses in their fields of study.

"The budget cutting will not be done piecemeal and across the board," he said. "All that would do is weaken everybody. Out of this Syracuse is going to get stronger, not weaker, for the same reason that a tree is stronger when you prune it."

The U. of North Carolina is now in its second year of drastic budget cuts. This year the university faced \$27.3 million in cuts. Of those, \$10.5 million have been termed permanent cuts. The remaining "temporary" cuts may be reversed next year.

To cope with the cuts, UNC imposed a hiring freeze, left nearly 300 jobs vacant for more than a year and eliminated 40 teaching and 100 non-teaching positions, said Wayne Jones, UNC's associate vice chancellor for business and finance.

Birdsall said UNC has tried to preserve student options. "I think we've done a good job this year," he said. "Most everybody got full loads, even if they didn't get their first choices."

UNC hopes that by spreading out their cuts the damage done to student projects can be minimized, Jones added. "But all departments have been hurt some," he said.

Like most other schools facing financial strain, officials at UNC expect to face serious cuts again next year.