

Weather: Wednesday mostly cloudy with a 30 percent chance of thunderstorms. High 75 to 80. Southeast wind 10 to 20 mph. Wednesday night cloudy, breezy and very mild with a 60 percent chance of thunderstorms. Low around 70.

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Genoways

He can't stand the heat Genoways pushes Morrill Hall renovation

By Rob Fraass
Staff Reporter

Hugh Genoways is a man with a definite plan. Since July, Genoways has been the director of the University of Nebraska State Museum. As director, he said, he intends to make the museum, one of the best natural history museums in the world.

"I can't talk about the museum in Morrill Hall without talking about renovation," Genoways said. "Getting this building renovated has got to be my top priority."

Genoways, a native of Bayard, came to the state museum from Pittsburgh, Pa., where he was the mammal curator for the Carnegie Museum of Natural History for 10 years. Before that he worked five years at the University of Texas Tech's museum.

After 23 years outside the state, Genoways said he is happy to be in Nebraska and is looking forward to upgrading the museum.

"We have some world-class material here that can't be put on exhibit because the conditions aren't right," he said.

The "conditions" are the fluctuating heat and humidity in Morrill Hall that are causing many displays to deteriorate. Genoways says an air-conditioning system is badly needed to control the climate of the museum. Many of the university's best paleontological and anthropological collections are not on display because the uncontrolled museum climate would harm them, he said.

Genoways said he realizes that planning the renovations are actually getting them done are two separate things.

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Students' gambling woes to be topic of workshop

By Shawn Hubbel
Staff Reporter

Beginning this week, UNL will become the first U.S. university to address the problem of compulsive gambling among students.

A class on gambling awareness will be taught to interested students and faculty and staff members at a workshop from 3 to 4:30 p.m., Wednesday in the Nebraska Union. The workshop, sponsored by the Gambling Awareness Committee, is geared towards educating staff members and students on the signs and symptoms associated with addictive gambling.

The Gambling Awareness Committee, a student-staff group headed by UNL Housing Director Doug Zatechka, was formed last spring after several students were arrested on gambling-related offenses.

"I think one of our roles should be to get some research done so we will be able to describe how widespread or intense this problem is," Zatechka said. The workshop, is for all students, "whether students are gambling nickels and dimes or it they're reaching the \$50,000 level, as I understand some of them were," Zatechka said.

Although exact figures on the number of students involved in gambings are not available, "we do know gambling exists on campus as it does on all (campuses) and we do know there are some students who have had serious problems with it," said Margaret Nellis, coordinator of community health at the University Health Center.

Gambling is recreation for most people, Nellis said, but for the compulsive gambler, "it's not

recreation, it's a drive."

The important thing for people to understand, Nellis said, is that "gambling is a risk behavior the same way drinking and drugs is a risk behavior. For some, it will become a problem; for some, it already is."

Janet Crawford, health educator at the University Health Center, said most college students who have problems with gambling began this behavior in high school. But the real consequences, Crawford said, may not show up for 10 years, and many gamblers may not seek help until they reach their 30s and 40s.

Nellis said that when gamblers finally do seek help, many of them must go through much the same treatment as people with substance abuse problems. Depression and suicide are very real threats with some of them, Nellis said.

Nellis said that she does not expect a large number of people to attend the workshop. But at the same time, she said, most people don't have a problem with gambling.

"There are people who can gamble all their lives and never lose control," she said. "It's just a small portion of the people gambling who have the problem."

The community health department at the University Health Center offers continuing counseling and referral for anyone who has a compulsive gambling habit or wants to help a family member or friend with problems caused by gambling. For more information, call 472-7440.

Help is also available from Gamblers Anonymous at 476-6444 and the Independence Center at 473-5877.

How to protect a river

Opponents say Niobrara plans don't hold water

By Michael Hooper
Senior Reporter

Lizards, skunks, deer and hawks live quietly along the banks of the Niobrara River, going about their natural business. It seems peaceful at first glance.

But along a 76-mile stretch of the Niobrara, dozens of landowners are engaged in a controversy over how to protect and manage the river.

At the core of the debate is proposed federal legislation to give the stretch between Valentine and the Nebraska Highway 137 Bridge north of Newport national scenic river status as part of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. Sen. J. James Exon, D-Neb., introduced the bill a year ago.

Opponents to federal designation generally say they would prefer local control and management of the Niobrara. Advocates for federal protection say it is the best way to protect the river from development that they fear could destroy the river's natural beauty.

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And some landowners are "riding the fence" between sides of the issue.

Roy Breuklander, owner of Sunny Brook Camp along the river, said he would like to have the opportunity to expand his campground business and see the river locally managed. But he fears that without federal protection, a dam could be built on the river

which he doesn't want.

"I'd like to see everybody keep their noses out of it (the river) and leave it just as it's always been," said Breuklander, who rents out canoes along the river. "... But I definitely would not like to see a dam built."

Exon's bill would require landowners along the river to maintain their land in a manner compatible with the scenic designation. Non-agricultural and non-residential use of the land would be subject to federal evaluation. Existing buildings along the river would remain and present usage of the land would be allowed to continue.

The federal government would be able to takeover private land used in a way that violates the scenic designation without the consent of the landowner. The government can take no more than 5 percent of the entire designated area. The government would pay landowners to acquire easement rights, but landowners would still own the land and could sell it.

The designation also prohibits water control projects such as dams that obstruct the waterway. But it does allow the construction of a diversion dam and pumping station to provide irrigation water for the Springview area. The diversion dam is a state-designed alternative to the proposed Norden Dam project, which was abandoned after years of controversy.

Maynard Jones, a rancher who lives one-half mile from the river, said he wants the river to be locally controlled, not by the federal government.

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