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"The Program"
scores big with performances.
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Tuesday
70/40
Sunny but cool today. Wednesday, continued fair but cool weather.

Federal appeals court dismisses Otey case

Stenberg calls for new execution date; lawyers to appeal

By Alan Phelps
Senior Reporter

Attorney General Don Stenberg asked for a new execution date to be set for Harold Lamont Otey, after a federal appeals court Monday dismissed the death row in-

mate's latest appeal. "For the 21st time, the State of Nebraska has been successful in upholding the death sentence of Harold Lamont Otey," Stenberg said. "The time has come for this sentence to be carried out."

The 8th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in St. Louis decided it lacked jurisdiction in the case, but the court also said it would have ruled in the state's favor.

Judges Pasco M. Bowman and Frank J. Magill rejected Otey's claim that the 1991 Nebraska Board of Par-

dons decision not to reduce Otey's sentence from death was unconstitutional.

In a dissenting opinion, Judge John R. Gibson said the fact that Nebraska's Board of Pardons included the attorney general was unconstitutional. Part of Otey's argument was that the board hearing was unfair because Stenberg served on it while two of his assistants testified against Otey.

Stenberg said he disagreed with Gibson.

"In any event, the attorney general cannot exercise a veto power,"

Stenberg said, "and the other two members of the board can grant a commutation in any case despite whatever objections the attorney general may have."

Gov. Ben Nelson, Secretary of State Allen Beermann and Stenberg make up the pardons board.

U.S. District Judge Warren Urbom of Lincoln rejected in 1992 Otey's challenge to the pardons board decision.

Otey, 42, was sentenced to death in 1978 for the 1977 rape and murder of Jane McManus of Omaha.

Otey had challenged his death sentence in five separate actions without success before his case was heard by the pardons board.

Through a spokesman, Nelson said it was good to see that justice would be carried out after 21 appeals in 16 years.

"The death penalty is the law in Nebraska, and we're pleased the process is moving forward," he said.

Deputy Clerk of the Nebraska Supreme Court Jan Culver said the court

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Jeff Riggert, UNL Housing staff assistant for recycling and energy efficiency, displays some of the new energy-saving fluorescent light bulbs that have replaced conventional models on campus. Riggert graduated from UNL in December with a bachelor's degree of biology.

Recycling, reusing, reducing reward Riggert

By Jody Holzworth
Staff Reporter

Jeff Riggert learned his "three Rs" at UNL. Recycling, reusing and reducing were what his education had been all about.

While getting his University of Nebraska-Lincoln degree in biology and environmental studies, Riggert worked to demonstrate the importance of ecological decisions to the university community.

Now, he continues that role as UNL's housing staff assistant for recycling and energy efficiency. He decided to do something about the paper, bottles and cans not

being recycled at the university when he was an undergraduate.



"I felt I could contribute to the university by helping to establish a campuswide recycling program," Riggert said.

He started recycling efforts with the help of the UNL environmental group, Ecology Now. His efforts have blossomed into many opportunities for him and a recycling program for the university.

The union staffs on both City and East campuses allowed Riggert and Ecology Now

to place recycling containers throughout the buildings in 1990.

But the group found everything from cigarette butts to leftover lunch thrown into the recycling containers.

"When dealing with recycling, you're dealing with human behavior," Riggert said.

The group learned that the location and the type of recycling containers determined whether the recycling program would work, Riggert said. Ecology Now members used trial and error to find the best conditions for recycling.

After watching the group's program be-

See RIGGERT on 6

New lighting to save UNL energy, money

By Rebecca Oltmans
Staff Reporter

Jeff Riggert is saving the university \$46,000 a year with an idea he stumbled upon accidentally.

The idea — energy-efficient lighting — came when Riggert moved into his own apartment after four years of residence hall living and started paying his own light bill.

"I thought there had to be a cheaper way to light up my apartment," Riggert said. "So I went down to the electric store to find one."

It was then, Riggert said, that he realized improving lighting was profitable.

A December graduate of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Riggert decided the university could profit from his ideas as well. Riggert is the assistant director of UNL's Environmental Resource Center.

After reading the Environmental Protection Agency's manual on efficient lighting, called the Green Lights Program, he took the idea to Nebraska Union officials and UNL Housing Director Doug Zatechka.

They gave him the go ahead to try to improve the lighting in parts of the Nebraska Union and Selleck Quadrangle, he said.

Frank Kuhn, assistant director of the Nebraska Union, said the union's lights stayed on for up to 24 hours a day. Because bulbs in the union were almost always on, new bulbs needed to be efficient as well as small, he said.

Riggert used smaller electronic fluorescent bulbs that are adapted to screw into the union's regular incandescent fixtures.

The new fixtures are made up of bulbs and adapters. The adapters last from six to 10 years. The fluorescent bulbs must be replaced after about a year and a half, he said, but they are inexpensive.

The system reduces labor costs and uses less energy, he said. In the union, some areas went from using 200 watt bulbs to 30 watt bulbs without reducing the amount of light, he said.

"It's pollution prevention," Riggert said, "when we reduce energy consumption it improves national security because we aren't

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Traditional presidential mold could be broken

By Dionne Searcey
Senior Reporter

In 1871, Allen R. Benton was named the first leader of the University of Nebraska.

Benton, like every university president that would follow, was a white male.

NU joins the club when it comes to hiring white university presidents, an American Council on Education report shows.

The report, based on a survey of 2,423 university leaders, shows the typical president to be white, male and 54 years old. Most American

presidents are married and are Protestants.

Members of the 1993 NU Presidential Search Committee say they are ensuring that candidates who break the age-old presidential mold will be given a fair shot at the job.

Clarence Ueda, dean of the NU College of Pharmacy at the University of Nebraska Medical Center, said that from day one the search committee had been dedicated to creating a diverse pool of candidates.

"That was essentially our charge when we had our first meeting," said Ueda, a member of the presidential search committee.

Committee members have narrowed the candidate pool to about 16 members, Ueda said. The search committee will meet Oct. 4 to further whittle the options.

No formal recruiting process exists, he said. Instead, Ueda said, the committee sends requests for job nominations to all university faculty and staff members regarding the job opening.

The committee advertises the job in newspapers and journals such as the Chronicle of Higher Education and the American Council of Education.

Members also sent advertisements

for the president's job to publications that have predominantly minority subscribers.

The last paragraph of an advertisement for the job of NU president says the university "actively seeks and encourages nominations and expression of interest from minorities and women, and provides reasonable accommodations to the known disabilities of applicants."

As word of mouth gets around, Ueda said, the applications file in. Since the advertising for the job began in May, more than 200 applications have been received.

"It's pretty wide open," he said.

"The committee would accept nominations from anybody and everybody." The committee, he said, does not necessarily look to hire a candidate who has job experience at university systems similar to NU.

"We look at a lot of different attributes that a candidate brings," he said. "You try and get the best match-up of attributes with needs."

Stephen Thew, a UNMC student who is a member of the committee, said he was pleased with the recruiting efforts of the search committee members.

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