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Summer Nebraskan

Kerrey launches new state NETV service

BY JOANNE YOUNG

Gov. Bob Kerrey dedicated a new video information service for Nebraska farmers, ranchers and agribusinesses Wednesday at the Nebraska Educational Television station, and moved state agriculture a giant step into the world of hi-technology.

AGRI-VIS, or Agriculture Video Information Service, went into full service when Kerrey typed the dedication into the computer and kicked off a host of new services including commodity futures quotations from the Chicago Board of Trade and Mercantile Exchange, USDA market reports, National Weather Service, and news and information from the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

During the dedication and news conference, which was broadcast live over the NETV network, Kerrey encouraged viewers to "use the valuable new service, criticize it, and enjoy it."

AGRI-VIS operates like its sister service for the hearing impaired, HI-VIS, the Line 21 service, project coordinator Scott Leigh said. The material is transmitted over the same signal as the network's regular programming, but can't be received without a special decoder which can be purchased for around \$245. The service is free, and recipients may deduct the cost of the decoder as a business expense on federal income tax returns.

Nebraskans for Public Television funded the start-up of AGRI-VIS with a \$20,000 grant. The service has broadcast USDA and Kansas City farm market reports since January.

Nebraska's farmers and ranchers seem

most interested in delayed quotations, Leigh said.

"We want to make sure the people know the quotations are not tick-by-tick," Leigh said. "Because of our contract, we must delay them at least 10 minutes. We are not competing with commodity brokers, but aiding them."

Because of the service, Leigh said, brokers should get fewer nuisance calls.

Leigh said the services offered by AGRI-VIS are the best available. "What would you rather have," he asked, "a 1968 Volkswagon or a 1983 Porsche? What we've got is a 1983 Porsche."

The program schedule is the key to the success of the service, Leigh said. The program was written by a public TV employee in Madison, Wis., Ken Emmerich, whom Leigh calls a "genius."

"This guy could be making \$50,000 working in the software industry, but instead he has chosen to stay in public TV," Leigh said.

In the future, Leigh said, they hope to have remote terminals for direct input from ag departments.

AGRI-VIS is broadcast on Text Channel 1 over all stations of the NETV network during the network's entire daily broadcast schedule:

Monday-Wednesday, 6:45 a.m.-11 p.m.

Thursday-Friday, 6:45 a.m.-midnight.

Saturday, 7 a.m.-midnight.

Sunday, 8 a.m.-11 p.m.

Program schedules and information are available by writing:

AGRI-VIS

Information Department

NETV

P.O. Box 83111

Lincoln, Nebraska 68501.



Photo by Mark Bastin

Gov. Bob Kerry dedicates Agri-Vis Wednesday.

Little piece out of Vietnam serves Lincoln ethnic foods

BY JAYE AUSTIN

There's a little piece of Vietnam in Lincoln at 242 N. 13th St. It's the Vung Tau restaurant, it serves ethnic foods.

Luong Vu, a small, dark-haired woman, manages the Vung Tau. She left Vietnam with her family when the fighting reached her village. The restaurant is named after Vung Tau, the village in her homeland.

Jasmine tea is the house drink. Vietnamese music mixes in with conversations. A flowering plant winds across one of the corners.

People sit at tables atop carpet and along the walls and in the room's center. Brown-wood paneling extends halfway up the walls. There is a reserved silence here, the cash register ringing, people eating, coming and going. People talking in low voices that could be heard if one were inclined to listen.

Vung Tau's Chow Mein is wholesome. Noodles and sauce with carrots, cauliflower and other vegetables lightly cooked with your choice of meat.

A picture of an Oriental landscape decorates one wall. It must look much like Viet-

Business education topic is computers

Computer applications for business education will be the main topic at the 24th Annual Conference on Business Education Friday at the Nebraska Union.

This will be the first year that the conference has concentrated solely on computers, said Dr. Birdie Holder, director of the conference.

Dr. Mildred Johnson, Professor of Business Education at Cheyney State College, will be the guest speaker.

nam where the original Vung Tau is.

Luong Vu left Vung Tau in 1975 with her four children. She said that when the fighting reached her village people were rushing back and forth. No one knew where to go.

She and the children went where there were fishing boats to get away from the fighting. Luong Vu's husband, who was serving in the army, found them before they left.

Luong Vu said that many people died. She now has six children, the youngest a boy of 3.

His bright-brown eyes crinkle at the edges as if catching a bit of peaceful sun.

Division II athletes to lose four sports

BY DAVID TROUBA

Dropping national championships for several sports in Division II schools could mean the loss of some fine athletic talent, according to the men's gymnastic's coach at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Francis Allen said lack of participation is the reason the National Collegiate Athletic Association is giving for dropping Division II national championship's in men's gymnastics, ice hockey, water polo and women's field hockey.

The loss of national championships for those Division II sports won't have "that definite of an effect" on Division I schools but it will make it much harder for athletes who aren't Division I caliber to find a place to compete, Allen said.

Assistant men's gymnastics coach at UN-L, Jim Howard said, "Once that level of competition is gone, there is no place for Division II athletes to go. Most Division II

BY BILL CONRADT

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln chapter of the American Association of University Professors will meet June 22 to discuss the recent 6.6 percent pay increase awarded to the University of Nebraska-Omaha faculty.

Erwin Goldenstein, an AAUP past president, said the association will discuss the UN-O settlement and its effects on UN-L, but it won't discuss the possibility of forming a bargaining unit.

Goldenstein said he'd "hesitate to make a

guess" whether the AAUP will form a bargaining unit, but it is possible with the present situation.

"It seems there would be things to motivate people" to accept a bargaining unit, Goldenstein said. "I think it would give professors clout" with the administration.

Goldenstein said the possibility of cutbacks in instructors and programs due to a pay increase would not be a problem since a cutback already seems inevitable.

UN-L's current president of the AAUP, Dave Moshman and vice-president, Linda Pratt, were not available for comment.

athletes couldn't achieve the ability to compete at the Division I level."

He added, "Most colleges won't sponsor teams if there isn't the opportunity for a championship. And without a championship, there won't be anyplace for those kids to show their achievements at a national level."

Howard said he feels that once the championships are taken away, the sports themselves may soon follow.

"Losing the sports means that there will be a smaller base of athletes available for competition. A smaller base makes it harder for a school to reach an elite program," Howard said.

An "elite" program is one that can produce champion athletes and olympic hopefuls, according to Howard.

Allen said NCAA rules state that a certain percentage of it's members must sponsor teams in a sport in order for the NCAA to have tournaments to find a national

champion or a division champion. When sponsoring a championship tournament, the NCAA pays to stage the event, pays travel costs for participating teams and pays all boarding costs of team members, with NCAA membership dues helping offset most of the costs, Allen said.

But without adequate participation, the NCAA loses money and sees no reason for holding championships, he said.

One exception to the rule is if a championship tournament makes more money from ticket sales and television contracts than it costs to operate. In that case, Allen said, the sport may continue.

Men's gymnastics at UN-L is such an example of a sport that has few participants, yet still makes money, he said.

And, as long as the championships are held at places large enough to attract a lot of people, men's gymnastics program will make money, Allen said.