

# Daily Nebraskan

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## U.S. delegation ready for U.N. challenge

By Jonathan Taylor

Changing from a student to a United States diplomat is an experience seldom found in everyday life at UNL, said the top U.S. delegate to the Nebraska Model United Nations.

Steve Arkfeld, a junior economics major, said delegates have to adopt the rules of ambassadors, not those of students. Delegates work straight through the four-day conference, which starts Feb. 8, Arkfeld said.

Preparation for the Model U.N. began after Arkfeld and his fellow delegates applied to represent the United States along with three to four other groups. Though selection was fairly competitive, Arkfeld said, his group was awarded the U.S. delegation because of strong background and experience.

The five-member delegation includes Jim Rogers, former outstanding Model U.N. delegate; Howard Dickerson, former Model U.N. secretary general; and Dave Bagby, former outstanding delegation member. Dan Andrews, a newcomer to the Model U.N., was recruited not because of past accomplishments, but so he could gain experience to work on future delegations, Arkfeld said.

Since Arkfeld began participating in the Model U.N. in high school, he has been secretary general for the 1981 conference and the main delegate from Pakistan at the Midwest Model U.N. in St. Louis, Mo.

To represent the United States, Arkfeld said his group must be prepared for the many issues that may arise at Model U.N. Although most of the delegation members have background information about U.S. policy and behavior in the U.N., Arkfeld said each member will have put in 15 to 30 hours of research before the conference begins on Wednesday. Arkfeld said students who did not have as much time to devote to the conference could apply for a smaller country that would not require as much preparation.

Arkfeld said he usually starts his research by reading newspapers for articles about international relations. He said publications like the *New York Times* have the best coverage of foreign affairs. Love



Dave Trouba/Daily Nebraskan

Chris Army, Randall Murphy, Lt. Gov. Don McGinley, Mark Howe and Georgia Panos display the proclamation for Nebraska Model United Nations week.

Library has U.N. periodicals, Arkfeld said. A meeting is then scheduled to make committee assignments, become familiar with other delegates' positions and discuss strategy and goals for the conference.

After this, most of the preparation is on an individual basis, Arkfeld said.

The U.S. delegation now is finishing about 20 resolutions it will present at the Model U.N. U.S. delegates will begin reading other countries' resolutions when they are submitted, Arkfeld said. The delegation also has contacted its "allies" to discuss common strategies and form good relations before the conference, he said.

Arkfeld said awards like outstanding delegation, best college delegate and best high school delegate are based on "how accurately and realistically students represent their country in substance and style." Traditional factors such as parliamentary

procedure and persuasiveness also figure in the awards. If a country is usually quiet at the real U.N., it should not be overly aggressive at the Model U.N., he said.

To represent the U.S. delegation realistically, Arkfeld said, his delegation will take a defensive position when dealing with the conflicting interests of other countries. Arkfeld said because the United States sees the U.N. as antagonistic in dealing with relations of some countries, the Model U.N. delegation will try to minimize the amount of U.N. intervention in negotiations among nations.

Arkfeld said when delegates adopt the viewpoints of foreign countries, it challenges their views about their own countries. The Model U.N. lets delegates see all sides of international issues and makes students identify and examine views that are not their own, Arkfeld said.

## Series provides opportunity to discuss women's issues

"Women in Perspective," a series sponsored by the Women's Resource Center, will present 11 informational sessions on various subjects beginning today.

Charlotte Chace, co-organizer of the project, said the purpose of the series is to let students hear women speak on topics which are relevant to women.

In each session, speakers will share information in an informal group discussion setting, Chace said.

The topics can be suggested and can include anything in which women are interested, Chace said.

Chace said this is the third year the Women's Resource Center has sponsored the series. Last year,

only eight programs were presented.

This semester, the 11 sessions will take place 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. Tuesdays in the Women's Resource Center, 117 Nebraska Union.

The schedule is:  
Feb. 7 — "Palm Readings," Pat Pateenne

Feb. 14 — "Women's Guide to Feminist Therapy," Gloria Wall

Feb. 21 — "Women and Aging," Helen Boosalis

Feb. 28 — "Financial Planning for Women," Beth Lee

March 6 — "Politics and Women's Studies," Helen Moore

March 13 — "Doublevision: Working Through Interracial Relationships," Judy Henderson

March 20 — "PMS, Premenstrual Syndrome," Women's Health Care

April 3 — "Treatment for Anorexia/Bulimia," Dr. Shirley Pflug

April 10 — "Wholistic Healing," Carol Bedient

April 17 — "Women in College Sports" (tentative)

April 24 — "Pornography"

"I am very excited that a lot of people will attend the series and make suggestions for future topics," Chace said.

## Douglas denies wrongdoing

By John Meissner

Attorney General Paul Douglas, under fire for "questionable actions" involving the Commonwealth Savings Co., denied any wrongdoing at a press conference Monday.

Douglas, responding to the (John) Miller-(David) Domina investigation report, released Jan. 20, said, "Frankly, the Miller-Domina report stinks." Douglas said the investigators distorted and misstated the facts.

"I may have made some mistakes or errors of judgment in my personal business activities referred to in the Domina report," he said. "I did nothing illegal or improper."

Specifically, the attorney general cited speculation in the commodities market and paying back loans to Commonwealth at interest rates of up to 20% as unwise business practice. But he said he received no preferential treatment from Commonwealth because of his friendship with Marvin Copple, Commonwealth's former vice president.

"The statement that I had loans from Commonwealth on which I did not pay interest is absolutely false," Douglas said. "I paid every nickel of interest at the going rate."

Douglas also said he disagreed with allegations that he mishandled the investigation of Commonwealth.

"The attorney general's office is not staffed to undertake initial investigations of complex matters in the Department of Banking brought to its attention... the attorney general is a lawyer and not a policeman," Douglas' report stated.

Douglas said he would have prosecuted Commonwealth officials if the

Department of Banking had requested it, because he had "prosecuted friends before." Rather, he said, the Department of Banking wanted to delay criminal proceedings until the department had solved the problems of solvency and liquidity.

Douglas said the former banking director, Paul Amen, had determined that criminal prosecution at the time would defy public interest. Also, Douglas said, Amen wanted to save the institution and protect its depositors from loss. Criminal prosecution would have prevented this, he said.

Douglas supported his own appointment of Ruth Anne Galter to the position of assistant attorney general to the banking department. Galter was married to Paul Galter, Marvin Copple's attorney. The Domina-Miller report questioned Galter's experience and a possible conflict of interest.

Galter had worked with the Department of Motor Vehicles as an assistant attorney general.

"She had excellent qualifications," Douglas said. Furthermore, she worked on cases other than Commonwealth, he said.

"At her first meeting on May 10, 1983, she was provided with a memorandum outlining some 35 cases to which she was requested to devote her attention. Commonwealth was not one of them."

Later, when it became apparent that the state planned to declare Commonwealth insolvent and take it over, Galter requested that she be relieved of further responsibility, citing conflict of interest, Douglas said. It was promptly granted, he said.

### Tuesday

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