Grants specialist keeps federal funds rolling in

By Erin Hicks Daily Nebraskan Staff Writer

In August alone, nearly \$2 million was awarded to UNL in the form of grants, contracts and

Since the July Lonset of fiscal year 1984-85, almost \$3 million credit for these substantial sums should go to the programs and Sponsored Programs Services.

Mary Severs has been a grants information specialist for RSPS for three years. Along with working as a graduate assistant at the Teaching and Learning Center for three years, she also earned her masters in special education at UNL.

as I get that information from the volved in this project. funding agencies, and secondly, I

agencies or opportunities for specific projects they have in mind,"

Funding and grant information is supplied primarily by private and government funding agencies; but also from state government, state, local and national foundahas been granted. Much of the tions and occasionally city government, she said. RSPS also has extensive subscriptions to personnel of UNL's Research and national newsletters and professional periodicals that provide new information about the major federal grants and their guide-

Two major programs Severs works with are the Key Word Thesaurus Project and the Illinois Researchers Information System. The Key Word Thesaurus Severs said she works to do two Project is a federal project funded by the National Science Founda-"First of all, I try to inform the tion. UNL is one of about 300 unifaculty of funding opportunities versities across the nation in-

Specific key words and code

funding announcements that are Dianne Horracks said. distributed to the universities. Then faculty members complete

nouncement from one of the gov- proach these federal agencies, ernment agencies, I run it through but they are usually very helpful the computer and match the and nice people." numbers on them with faculty who have an interest in each area," Severs said.

Since Severs began working at tional and public service projects. RSPS, she said she has seen an increase in the number of faculty who use the information and services provided by RSPS. She now has more than 700 faculty interest profiles on record.

The three major funding agencies that cooperate with the Key Word Thesaurus Project are the National Science Foundation, the National Endowment for the Humanities and the National Insti- have been compiled, RSPS reviews tute for Health.

The Illinois Researchers Information System is a computerized have been met. data base that RSPS subscribes to. Any faculty member interested in finding a grant for a specific project can get a listing of funding opportunities in that area. IRIS also helps new professors learn about grant opportunities in their fields.

RSPS has existed at UNL for they may like only a certain aspect

"We function as an intermeinterest profiles using the same diary contact between faculty key word system of identification. members and funding agencies, "When I get a funding an- she said. "Often it is scary to ap-

> RSPS helps faculty members find funding for research, instruc-

"Faculty members come to us with a specific project or a funding source in mind. We match their needs with what is available and then provide them with application guidelines, forms and deadlines," Horracks said.

After these funding proposals their general content and ideas, then checks to make sure all of the funding agency guidelines

After a project has been awarded, RSPS follows up by assisting with grant and contract negotiations with the funding agency.

"A funding agency may accept a proposal as it was submitted, or

also help faculty locate funding numbers are first assigned to about 15 years, Office Manager and will allocate funds for parts of a proposal. We work with the faculty and the funding agency negotiating the terms and conditions of awards," Horracks said.

> RSPS, in conjunction with Norman Rosenberg, acting assistant chancellor for research, works with UNL department chairpersons to stimulate research activity and to maintain UNL's reputation as an active university across the nation. According to Horracks, RSPS reviewed more then 500 proposals last year.

> Proposals submitted by UNL this August totaled \$2,457,411. Of this, \$1,972,688 was actually received. Federal agencies awarded \$1,110,225, state agencies. \$241,064, area and local agencies, \$83,500, industry, \$179,905, the NU Foundation, \$187,346; and other various agencies provided \$170,648.

> RSPS publishes a monthly newsletter that informs professors of ongoing grants, programs that will be discontinued, changes in eligibility requirements and specific deadlines that must be met. People interested in the newsletter can have their names placed on a mailing list free of charge by contacting the RSPS office at Administration 414 or call 472-3171.

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UNL Chess Club gains recognition, prepares for Pan-Am tournament

officially recognized by the UNL Cam-rounds. pus Activities Office, the UNL successful team.

"The club never disbanded," said enough to be recognzied by the p.m Campus Activities Office as an organization."

Ater two years of not being each played three, two-hour Swiss March every year in a different

Kevin Flemming, the Nebraska Chess Club is back in action with state chess champion, and Matt hopes of becoming a large and Mohowald tied for first place. John Stepp placed second.

The next UNL Chess Club-spon-Robert Narveson, UNL Chess Club sored tournament will be Oct. adviser. "We just were not active 14th in the Nebraska Union at 1

Narveson said club players are excited about the Pan-American A recent tournament helped to Tournament. The tournament is recruit eight participants who held in late February or early

location and its participants are from various states and regions. The UNL Chess Club won the Pan-American Tournament in 1976.

Narveson, the chess club adviser since the early 1960s, was the Lincoln city chess champion

"Chess is an absorbing hobby," Narveson said. Players feel as though they are in an "interspace and you move into another world that is totally absorbing," he said.

Narveson, 54, became interested in playing chess when he was 18.

Citizens urged to help fight alcohol abuse

Gov. Bob Kerrey will usher in October as Alcohol Awareness Month in Nebraska by signing a proclamation Wednesday at the Capitol

The proclamation urges Nebraskans to become actively involved in increasing awareness of alcohol and drug abuse and to take individual responsibility in preventing alcohol-related prob-

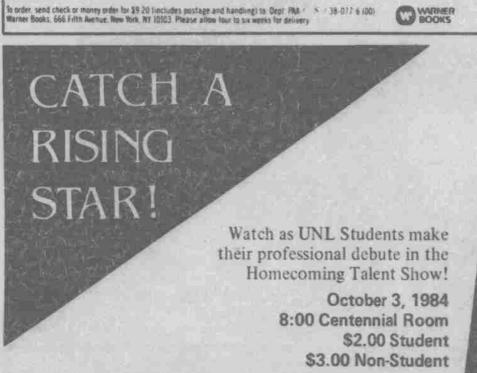
Alcohol Awareness activities are scheduled throughout the state during October.

The Lincoln Council on Alcoholism and Drugs will be hosts of Challenge to Fitness, a track and field event to promote physical fitness as a healthy alternative to chemical use, Sunday at 1:30 p.m. at Lincoln High School.

The council also is assisting in producing a television program on chemical dependency among women, scheduled to be broadcast on KOLN-TV/KGIN-TV's "Etcetera," Saturday at 6:30 p.m.

The Omaha Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse is coordinating a series of events including poster contests, shopping mall displays, workshops for youth and programming for cable television.

The Daily Nebraskan will run a five-part series beginning Monday exploring various issues of the topic, "Alcohol on Campus," in coordination with National Colegiate Alcohol Awareness Week







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