

Daily Nebraskan

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University of Nebraska-Lincoln

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Weather: Mostly sunny and warmer today with a high of 19 (-7C). Cloudy and not as cold tonight with a low of -2 (-19C). Partly sunny and cooler Thursday with a high of 16 (-9C). Look for a warming trend this weekend with highs in the mid-20s (-4C).

Bob Brubecher/Daily Nebraskan

KZUM offers more than Top 40...Page 7

Husker in the spotlight...Page 9

Death penalty bill stalls in committee

By Brad Gifford
Senior Reporter

The Legislature's Judiciary Committee voted 8-4 Monday against advancement of a bill that would replace the death penalty in Nebraska with a mandatory, irrevocable 30-year sentence. Chairman Peter Hoagland of Omaha motioned to postpone a vote on the bill until the committee could consider two proposed amendments. Sen. Ernest Chambers of Omaha requested the vote in executive session.

Chambers afterward said that Hoagland and fellow committee member Chris Beutler of Lincoln, were stalling when they said they wanted to consider the amendments.

"It's just an excuse for Beutler and Hoagland to vote against the bill," Chambers said.

One amendment would increase the 30-year sentence to 40 years, and the other would allow the state to use the death penalty only on people convicted of first-degree murder a second time.

Robert Crosby, former governor of Nebraska testifying on his own behalf, suggested the 10-

year increase although he favors the bill in its present form. He said the longer period of incarceration might improve the bill's chances of passage.

Crosby, who as an attorney defended a first-degree murderer once, said he is completely against the death penalty.

"I hope that 50 or 100 years down the road that people will look back in disbelief that we, in 1985, had no better resource than to kill someone because they killed someone else," Crosby said.

Aside from their moral objections, people who testified against the death penalty said it should be eliminated because it is not applied fairly.

Chambers cited a case in which a husband hired another man to kill his wife. The killer and the husband were convicted of second-degree murder. But the man who was the middleman — a contact between the killer and husband — was charged with first-degree murder and became a death penalty candidate.

Continued on Page 6

Osborne in stable condition after heart surgery

By Mike Reilly
Senior Reporter

Nebraska football coach Tom Osborne underwent a successful double bypass heart operation Tuesday morning at Bryan Memorial Hospital in Lincoln.

Osborne was listed in stable condition after the surgery and is expected to be released within five to seven days, a hospital official said.

Dr. Deepak Gangahar, a thoracic and cardiovascular surgeon from India, performed the surgery, which lasted about

three hours. Gangahar was assisted by Lincoln cardiovascular surgeon Dr. Stephen Carveth.

Osborne chose surgery after feeling a fullness or tightness in his chest while jogging six to eight weeks ago. When his cardiologist, Dr. Walt Weaver, gave Osborne an electrocardiogram Friday, he detected an abnormality.

Monday morning Osborne underwent a cardiac catheterization and a blockage was detected in one of his mammary arteries.

Weaver gave Osborne three options:

● Control the problem with medication,

● Angioplasty, which consists of inflating tiny balloons to open the passage, or

● bypass surgery.

Weaver said the medication would "probably reduce his lifestyle" and the angioplasty didn't suit the particular kind of blockage Osborne had.

Weaver compared Osborne's decision to take the surgery to the decisions he makes on the football field.

"Without probably 10 seconds delay, sort of the same way he makes decisions in ball games, he elected the bypass surgery," Weaver said. "He wanted to be ready to go for spring ball."

Weaver described the surgery as "mild" and "routine."

"It's one of the commonest operations performed in the United States," Weaver said.

Osborne's clean lifestyle, which includes jogging five miles a day, was the reason he pulled through the operation so easily, Weaver said.

"He has only had symptoms for a few weeks and he's always kept himself in excellent shape," Weaver said. "He's been sort of a model for all of us in terms of how you ought to take care of your life both spiritually and physically."

The jogging, Weaver said, was a key factor in the detection of the blockage.

"It's probably fortunate that Coach Osborne has been jogging," Weaver said. "It has kept his heart in excellent shape, and it brought the symptoms to our attention."

Official says foreign debt has declined in two years

By Gene Gentrup
Senior Reporter

The Latin American debt crisis is over, a representative from the U.S. State Department said Tuesday.

Carolee Helleman, a marketing specialist for the Overseas Private Investment Corporation, said debt-restructuring programs, including Mexico's Multi-year Rescheduling Arrangement, have turned a Latin American debt of \$370 billion in 1979 into an 8.5 percent growth rate in 1984.

Helleman, a UNL alumna, spoke at a noon luncheon as part of B-Week activities, sponsored by UNL's College of Business Administration.

Helleman said the Latin American debt crisis began in 1982 when Mexico declared itself unable to meet its financial obligations.

She said when the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries raised its oil prices in 1973 and 1979, Mexico was unable to sustain its level of spending and needed to borrow abroad.

But to alleviate the problem, OPEC began depositing part of its income into world commercial banks which in turn loaned the money to Mexico and other less-developed countries like Brazil and Argentina.

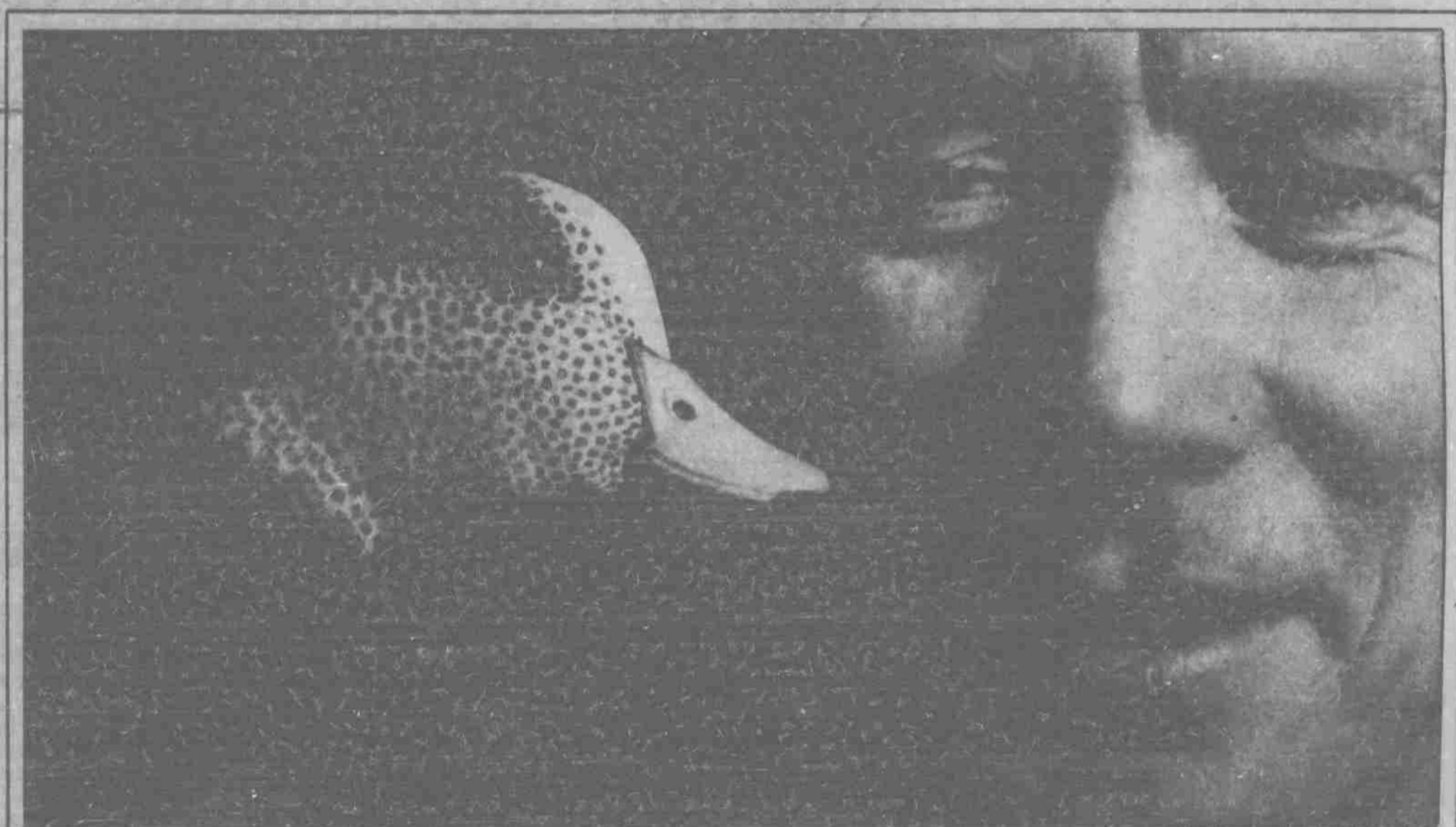
Helleman said an economic summit in London resulted in five debt-restructuring objectives for the world's less developed countries, including Latin America. The five objectives include:

● Making economic adjustments in the "better-developed" countries to stimulate monetary growth in the "less-developed-countries."

● Having less-developed countries change their internal economic policies to stimulate decreasing interest and foreign exchange rates.

● Lending by world commercial banks to continue restructuring of heavily indebted countries.

Continued on Page 6



Joel Sartore/Daily Nebraskan

Derby with one of his creations, an American Widgeon decoy.

Artist recommends lessons

Master wood carver 'never satisfied'

By Joel Sartore
Photography Chief

Some folks are just never satisfied.

Take the guy in the picture above, for example. You wouldn't know it by looking, but that duck he's with is made of wood. In fact, he carved it himself. He considers it to be his best work.

Darrell Derby of Lincoln, said he isn't really all that happy with it. He never is. It's just something that goes with being a professional wood carver, he said.

"I always felt I could do better," Derby said. "I've never

been satisfied with anything I've carved ... there's always a mistake, a flaw. Other people can't see it, but I know it's there."

Derby, 40, has been carving wood, from songbirds to decoys, for the past 10 years. Now recognized as a "master" carver, his work shows at exhibitions and sales around the region. An average decoy of his takes 60 hours to make and sells for \$400.

"You can see I'm not going to get rich doing it," he said. "... but I love working with my hands. It's a good stress outlet. I'm motivated more by actually doing it than by getting it done."

Derby, who is division manager with Lincoln's Public Works Department, said he has made close to 200 carvings so far. Of these, he has sold approximately 150, the rest he has given away as gifts to family and friends. Once in awhile though, he said he ends up with a carving he just has to keep. Take the mallard in his office, for example.

"He's a full-bodied, standing bird," Derby said. "There's almost something arrogant in his appearance. I just decided I was keeping that one for me."

Derby said wood carving is something many people can do once they put their minds to it. He

does recommend taking lessons from a master carver, however, in order to learn the tricks of the carving trade.

"I never did take lessons and that was a mistake," he said. "I probably could have learned as much from a master in six months as I learned from four or five years on my own."

Meanwhile, Darrell Derby said he continues to learn with every new carving.

"I like to think that every time I complete a piece, it's better than the last one," he said. "It doesn't always work out that way, but it's a nice goal to set."