

# The Nebraskan

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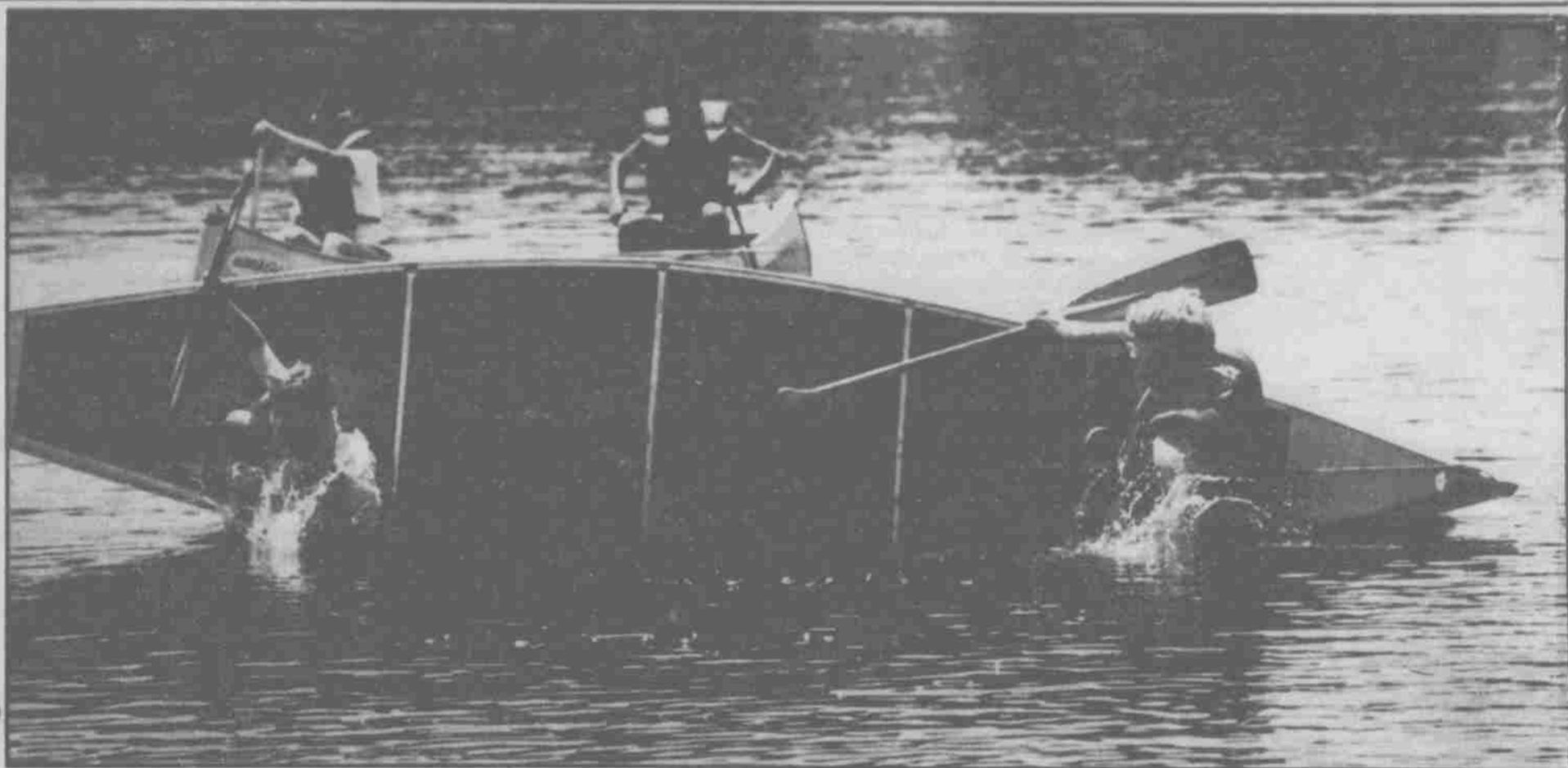
**Weather:** Fair and warm conditions are expected to continue as the holiday nears. Today will be mostly sunny with a high of 87 (30C). Continued fair tonight with a low of 65 (18C). Slightly warmer on Wednesday with a high of 91 (33C). The extended forecast for the holiday calls for mostly sunny skies and warm with highs in the mid 80s (30C).

Barb Branda/The Nebraskan

**Fun and fireworks fly on the Fourth...Page 7**

**Sprint drivers feud at Eagle track...Page 6**

*Water you think you're doing?*



Mark Davis/The Nebraskan

Megan McCracken and Jim Pfeiffer prepare for a splashdown as their canoe tips over at Holmes Lake. Pfeiffer is a canoeing safety instructor for Lincoln Parks and Recreation.

## New admissions standards approved for '86

By Deb Pederson  
Senior Reporter

NU is jumping on a national bandwagon and stiffening its admissions requirements effective the summer and fall of 1986, UNL Director of Admissions and Advising Al Papik said Monday.

In May 1982, the NU Board of Regents approved new admissions standards which would put residents and non-residents on equal footing and use specific classes, test scores and class rank as the basis for admittance, Papik said.

According to a recent report by the American Council on Education, almost half of the colleges and universities are reviewing, or have reviewed, their admissions requirements. Schools are raising standards, specifying courses needed for admissions and reviewing the role of test scores, the report said.

"I don't refer to it as a selective admissions process," Papik said. "I look at it as the minimum requirements needed to experience academic success here at the university."

Under the old requirements, residents who were graduates of an approved Nebraska high school were admitted on an open policy basis, Papik said. Non-residents had to be in the upper half of their class and submit test scores which fell within the mean score of the previous freshman class, he said.

Students would be admitted under one of three options under the new requirements, Papik said.

The first option for full standing admittance requires completion in high school of a set of core courses: four years of language arts, including three years of English; two years of mathematics, including one year of algebra and one year of advanced math; two

years of natural sciences; and two years of social sciences. High school is considered to be 9th through 12th grades.

The second option requires a test score of 18 on the ACT composite or 850 on the verbal and math combined on the SAT.

The third option requires the applicant to have graduated in the upper half of his class.

"A student can be admitted on conditional status if he has three years of English and one year of algebra," Papik said. "But he has to make up the deficiencies in the first year of school."

Admission to the university doesn't guarantee admission into some of the colleges, he said.

The colleges of Architecture and Engineering have their own set of more rigorous entrance requirements.

The College of Architecture requires a class rank in the upper half, an ACT

score of at least 21 or an SAT score of at least 970 and a specific list of core classes, he said.

The College of Engineering requires a class rank in the upper half, an ACT score of at least 23 or an SAT score of at least 1025 and a specific list of core classes, he said.

Students who are accepted to NU and want to pursue a major in one of those colleges but fall short of the requirements can go undeclared, remove the deficiencies while maintaining a GPA of 2.6 for Architecture or 2.5 for Engineering and then transfer into the college, Papik said.

"By looking at previous data, it

appears that most of the students would be admissible to the university anyway," Papik said.

A large majority of admitted students already have the core classes, he said. About 70 percent have test scores higher than the new requirement and approximately 80 percent graduated in the upper half of their class, he said.

"I don't think it (the new requirements) is going to prevent many students from entering the university," Papik said.

The Board of Regents determine the admissions requirements according to state statute.

## State museum receives rare specimen

By Michael Hooper  
Staff Reporter

The University of Nebraska State Museum received a rare fossil recently, a partial jawbone of an Arctodus, an extinct giant short-faced bear.

The jawbone, found in a commercial gravel pit near McCook, and coming from a "strictly" carnivorous bear, is an important find because carnivores are always the least numerous of animals at any one time in history, said paleontologist George Corner, who works on the museum's Department of Roads Highway Paleontological Salvage program.

"By far less than one percent of our collections is of the big carnivores," Corner said. The Arctodus partial jaw is the third one found like it in the state," he said.

The jawbone structure is not complete, but it has two well-preserved molars — teeth about the size of walnuts, Corner said.

The gravel pit company that found the jawbone June 19 pulled it from 35 to 40 feet below the water level, Corner

said. The fossil comes from an extremely large short-faced bear, he said.

"It was over 11 feet tall and had a reach of more than 14 feet standing flat footed," Corner said.

"The scary thing is that it had extended toes, which enabled the Arctodus to run faster, instead of curved-down toes like today's bears and with their extremely long arms, they could run down their prey — elks, deer, or

anything in their way," Corner said.

The Arctodus lived in the late part of the ice age — 20 to 30,000 years ago.

The partial Arctodus jawbone that was found is about eight inches long.

"The whole jaw would have been a foot long," he said.

Corner said he and other paleontologists are taking measurements on the Arctodus jawbone and comparing it to other finds and documents on the same species.



Courtesy of University of Nebraska State Museum

## Hostages express sympathy for captors

By the Reuter News Service

One of four Americans held by the pro-Iranian Hizbollah organization during the Beirut hostage crisis Monday praised his captors as "kind people" and denied they were extremists.

Robert Brown, 42, told reporters at the U.S. military hospital in Wiesbaden that the four had been treated well throughout their detention and said they had discussed the situation in the Middle East at length with them.

"I feel sorry that the Hizbollah has been labelled extremist because the people who took care of us were, I'm convinced, of the Hizbollah and they were not extremists. They were kind people who took care of us very well," he said.

Brown was among 39 Americans flown to Frankfurt Monday from Damascus following their release after 17 days captivity. They were taken to the hospital in nearby Wiesbaden for psychological and medical checks.

The Hizbollah — "Party of God" — delayed the release of the 39 men over the weekend by initially refusing to free the four men in its charge.

The four were all employed by the Navy and fears for their safety had

been expressed in the United States following the slaying of another Navy man, Robert Stethem, at the start of the hijack drama.

Several of the 39 hostages voiced sympathy towards their captors, mostly from the Amal militia, while in Beirut and at a press conference in Damascus.

But Brown's comments appeared to have added significance as they were made in the West and he was under no real or imagined constraints to be careful in his choice of words.

Talking in the garden of the hospital, he said he saw one of the two hijackers who seized Trans World Airlines flight 847 on June 14 twice during his captivity in Beirut.

He added that he had recognized the man partly from the unmistakable silver pistol he carried.

The wife of Allyn Conwell, who became the hostages' spokesman during their ordeal, also voiced sympathy for the men who held the 39 Americans captive.

After visiting her husband she told Reuters they had treated all the hostages well and that there were "no horror stories."

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