

Partly cloudy today. Highs in lower 80s.

KZUM programmer suspended by board

Arts & Entertainment, Page 6

Omaha baseball player signed by Auburn

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Daily Nebraskan

June 24, 1986

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Vol. 85 No. 159



Linda Story/Daily-Nebraskan

Valerie Miller, Omaha, and Brenda Butts, Lincoln, teamed up to create a dual expression of the music served up by instructor Sandy Christopherson during the Nebraska Scholars Institute

NSI helps the gifted Intellectuals don't have to be nerds

By Steve Thomas
Staff Reporter

Enter Myron Thinkelman, high school honor student. *Turn ons:* Mozart, qualitative analysis, 18th century literature. *The perfect evening:* good excuse to stay home, good book, good thick glasses, good night.

But then the Nebraska Scholars' Institute (NSI) took offense: the stereotype of the honor student has haunted intellectuals for eons. The assumptions were false; it was time for the honor students to see themselves in the right light — as bright, gifted, complete people with limit-

less potential.

Jan Deeds, director of counseling for NSI, said NSI, a two-week summer enrichment program aimed at gifted high school seniors, might be the best experience a young person can have.

"Society has stereotypes about gifted people, and they aren't necessary," Deeds said. "Our purpose is to help these young people feel good about being scholars and exceptionally bright people."

Deeds said the program started four years ago because people had noticed a lack of support within school systems for the gifted.

"These people are lovers of learn-

ing, and NSI offers a place where these young scholars can say, 'I am good and I do need support,'" Deeds said.

Support is crucial, according to Deeds. No young person — no matter how gifted and self-confident he may be — can maximize his potential without it, Deeds says.

"We stress the idea of multipotentiality at NSI," Deeds said. "If a young person is multi-talented and can do 30 things well, he has some choices to make and needs some help. We feel like we can help with their career planning, and that is

See NSI on 3

Roskens: University must promote change

By James M. Lillis
Senior Reporter

NU President Ronald Roskens spoke about current conditions in Nebraska and how they will affect the role and future of the University of Nebraska to the NU Board of Regents, Saturday.

Roskens said NU once was regarded as one of the nation's pre-eminent academic institutions, and it is appropriate to try to regain that stature. The task may seem difficult at first, he said, but the objective is attainable.

"Complex organizations like ours must adjust continuously if they are to lead and prosper," Roskens said, "but change should be more than a response to the exigencies of the moment."

He said despite the stresses of budget cutbacks and continuous external pressures for reduction and reform, the university has done a "remarkable job."

However, Roskens said, elected leaders and citizens have allowed a "pall of negativism to descend over us." He said the university searches for the "quick fix," and reacts rather than leads.

"I believe that it is incumbent upon the University of Nebraska to become a

powerful agent for change within this state," Roskens said. "In the months and years ahead, the university should be a catalytic force around which Nebraskans fashion productive lives and vibrant communities, limited — if at all — only by their capacities to dream."

Roskens stated four principles that "must inform our actions and objectives":

First, NU is united, not the university in opposition to the bureaucracy.

Second, NU should continue to improve its status as a major research university.

Third, NU must foster a sense of community and a dedication to service.

Fourth, it must be stressed continuously that change is necessary to improve.

Roskens said NU must strengthen its strategic planning efforts, alter its budget process, sophisticate its salary initiatives, be willing and able to attract the best students in the state and region, and concentrate more on student quality than quantity. He also said that NU must view itself as one segment of the larger postsecondary education community within the state and substantially increase external funding for research.

Republicans seek support for Orr during convention

By Geoff Goodwin
Staff Reporter

Traditionally, political conventions are supposed to be decided in smoke-filled rooms by fat men with big Havanas sticking out of their mouths.

There was little of that Saturday as the Republicans held their state convention at the Cornhusker Hotel. There were a few cigars in evidence and a few fat people too, but the convention was largely devoted to a single theme: Let's win back the governor's mansion.

Speaker after speaker extolled the qualifications of Kay Orr, the GOP's gubernatorial candidate, and her fellow candidates for state office.

Unity was stressed repeatedly as the delegates were urged to devote themselves to helping elect Republicans in November.

Congressman Hal Daub of Omaha noted the recent success of fundamentalist Christian groups at county conventions in Lincoln and Omaha. He said some Republican leaders are concerned about the growing influence of fundamentalists within the GOP and urged the delegates to open up the party.

"We are a diverse group and that's healthy," Daub said. "We have blacks, Native Americans, Hispanics. And all of this was done without using quotas. We can't be concerned about Pat Robertson (television evangelist and likely Republican presidential candidate in 1988) taking over the Republican party."

Daub said the Republicans are more in tune with the thinking of the American people.

"Look at the Democratic candidates — Mario Cuomo, Gary Hart, Joe Biden — they're all liberals from the McGovern-Mondale wing of the party," he said.

Daub credited President Reagan with reversing the slide he said the country had taken under President Carter.

"This country is on the road to a fine future for our kids and grandkids," he said. "And we have Ronald Reagan to thank for that."

Lynn Nofziger, who has held a variety of positions under Reagan dating back to his days as governor of California, gave the keynote address to the convention.

He urged the Republicans not to be complacent about the fall election.

"As I travel around the country I'm fearful that people will just say Ronald Reagan is wonderful — which he is — and just sit on their hands," he said.

Nofziger said he thought the GOP could retain control of the Senate.

"We've got some states, like Oklahoma and North Carolina, where we're going to have trouble holding onto those seats, but overall I think we have an excellent chance to keep control of the Senate, he said.

Nofziger devoted most of his address to giving the delegates a personal view of Ronald Reagan.

Nofziger said the president remains much the same man he was before he entered politics.

"I've never seen a man in my life as uncorrupted by power as this man," he said. "You can still talk with him, you can still joke with him just like you could 20 years ago."