Sports

Business manager stays busy with job at athletic department

By Chuck Green Senior Reporter

When the UNL Athletic Department is concerned with money, it comes to spending, Gary Fouraker.

busy with the financial responsibilities of Cornhusker athletics. Fouraker's office handles all the business functions of the athletic department, including the payment of bills and personnel payroll forms.

Fouraker is also in charge of conceson campus. For example, Fouraker is in ball ticket revenue. charge of concessions for sporting Sports Center.

Fouraker said the part of his job he football season is in full-swing.

job," Fouraker said. "I very seldomly see any of the home football games because I'm involved in the concessions."

Though the long hours are annoying, involved in the job.

people to meet," Fouraker said. "It's a and Nebraska." very changing job."

Masters Degree in business in 1984.

One aspect of financial budgeting

fund raising. Though he does some the gate," he said, "but if you get work with fund raising and booster someone like New Mexico, you can clubs, Fouraker said his primary job probably pay them a little less.' dealing with fund raising is approval of

Fouraker, UNL athletic business said, "they (the fund raisers and booster said. manager for five years, is constantly organizations) come through us for approval to spend funds, but other than that, I'm not involved very much."

spend their funds.

sions at all events at athletic facilities funds come from football and basket- coaching staff, trainers and equipment

events as well as concerts and other tially what raises most of the money to office, Fouraker said. social activities at the Bob Devaney support the athletic department," Fouraker said.

enjoys least is the long working days he raises a large portion of the athletic and less frequent traveling expenses. must put in, especially in the fall when budget, Fouraker said. Money from TV "It's pretty much a seven-day-a-week the Big Eight Conference. For confermoney is left over, it's set aside for ence games, Fouraker said, Nebraska maintenance and repair of existing has a contract which allows for a facilities. maximum payoff of \$175,000 to other Big Eight schools.

Fouraker said he enjoys the variety making those payments are Oklahoma we're looking at possibly having to "There's always something different souri has payed that much in some happening and there's always different games, but mostly it's been Oklahoma

Fouraker said the standard payment A native of Nebraska, Fouraker re- for nonconference games is 40 to 50 hectic and long, Fouraker said he has ceived a Bachelor of Science degree at percent of the gate revenue, depending no plans to leave the budget depart-Nebraska in 1973 and completed his on which team Nebraska is playing that ment to pursue other jobs. week.

Fouraker is not heavily involved in is State, you're going to pay them half of here.

Fouraker said Nebraska still has a few contracts that are made on a set-"The way we're set up now," Fouraker dollar basis, but "that's very rare," he

Football is the most expensive sport, Fouraker said, costing around \$4 million dollars annually. Most of the money According to Fouraker, this approval spent on the football program goes is necessary so the budget department toward scholarships, which include has some control over how organizations tuition, fees, housing and books. Fouraker said other major expenses in the Fouraker said most of the athletic football budget include salaries for the personnel. The purchasing of equip-"Football and basketball are essen- ment also comes through the budget

Golf and tennis are the least expensive sports at Nebraska, primarily Football television revenue also because of the smaller team rosters

Fouraker said there is usually not games is split up among the schools in much of an excess in funds, but when

"A couple of years ago, we had to replace the artificial turf in Memorial "Right now, the only teams that are Stadium," he said, "and right now and Nebraska," Fouraker said. "Mis- replace the track surfaces (outdoor and indoor tracks)."

> Fouraker guessed the cost of resurfacing would be \$150,000 to \$200,000.

Though the work sometimes gets

"I like it here," Fouraker said. "I "If you get a name team like Florida enjoy Nebraska and the people who live

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dredged from storage, framed, and now hangs in Fouraker's office.

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