

**WEATHER:** Cloudy and cooler today with a 60 percent chance of showers. High near 47. Southeast wind 10 to 20 mph becoming east. Breezy and cold tonight with a 70 percent chance of rain changing to snow late. Low near 30. Windy and colder Saturday with a 60 percent chance of snow. High around 34.

# Daily Nebraskan

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University of Nebraska-Lincoln

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## Handcrafts help markets and educate

By Merry Hayes  
 Staff Reporter

A woman in Bangladesh kneels on a dirt floor making greeting cards out of wheat straw. Her tools are crude, but her hands are skillful. The purchase of 10 of these cards may sustain her another day.

She is one of the many refugees, handicapped and low-income individuals whose survival depends on the American market.

Lincoln's Helping Hands Handcrafts is helping keep her and her craft alive by retailing her products.

Helping Hands is a non-profit store, staffed by volunteers that sells the crafts by artisans in 45 developing countries and regions in the United States. The store sold more than \$500,000 worth of goods last year.

Helping Hands sells handcrafted wooden items from India, Kenya, Thailand, Taiwan, Haiti, the West Bank and Ecuador.

Gary Jones, one of the original seven who began Helping Hands in 1981, said the best-selling items are brass, baskets and jewelry. He said the brass, which is made in India, is cheaper and better than brass sold in other Lincoln stores. Most of the baskets are woven in the Philippines and the jewelry is made in Chile, India, Bethlehem, Korea and Costa Rica.

Some rarities that are sold include ancient needlework designs by Hmong refugees and Mola designs based on the traditional dress of Cuna women in Panama.

Helping Hands buys the products from two marketing outlets: Self Help a Mennonite Central Committee program, and SERRV, a Church of the Brethren organization.

Self Help and SERRV pay the craft-makers a price that covers time, labor and materials. Helping Hands' price, about twice what the artisan receives, covers shipping, warehouse and overhead costs.



Paul Vonderlage/Daily Nebraskan

Susie Arth and Mike Dinges, both students at Plus X High School, take time out to examine some of the merchandise made in Third World countries at Helping Hands.

Self Help and SERRV buy only from those whose main income comes from the crafts and who cannot find another market for their goods. Helping Hands also buys some crafts directly from Navajo Indians and Hmong refugees in the United States who are on welfare.

Jones said the effort helps ensure the craftsmakers a fair price for their products and keeps traditional artistic skills alive. He said the descendants of the builders of the Taj Mahal are now making soapstone crafts using the same techniques. Without a market the craft would die out.

Jones said Helping Hands tries to educate people about the conditions in Third World countries.

An information card about the Philippines that comes with teak elephants from that country said, "The average woman must work 20 minutes to earn enough money to buy one egg."

Jones said Helping Hands tries to be person- and not product-oriented. "We try to get across to staff and customers that a person made this," he said. "If we only sell products, then we're going to fail. We have to communicate."

## CBA does its business beneath a cloud of cuts

By Jen Deselms  
 Senior Reporter

Although some departmental chairmen in the College of Business Administration describe the university's tight budget as a dark cloud, Dean Gary Schwendiman sees a bright future.

The college, which includes five departments and the Bureau of Business Research and offers seven undergraduate degree programs, ranks in the top 10 percent of the 500 four-year business programs at colleges and universities across the nation, Schwendiman said.

The quality of education remains high despite the negative attitude produced by budget cuts, Schwendiman said. The college was one of the charter members of the business-college national accreditation association in 1916 and has maintained accreditation on all levels, he said. The doctorate program at the business college is the 10th largest in the nation with 150 students.

Swendiman said he remains optimistic. However, the main impact of a tight budget has been to create negative atmosphere and attitude, he said.

"What it (overcoming the negative attitude) takes is a lot of refocusing to really see things in their proper perspective," Schwendiman said.

Opportunities for students in the college have improved, he said. The college's ability to do a good job of educating students and giving them opportunities is greater than ever before, Schwendiman said. One of the examples of greater opportunities for students is the donation of \$50,000 a year for 30 years by James C. and Jessie B. Coe of Phoenix, Ariz. The donation has helped pay for computer equipment.

"My greatest frustration is that you can't project to the students... all the tremendous opportunities available to them in the college," Schwendiman said.

Students should take every oppor-

tunity to learn, he said. The franchise studies program and an exchange program with Senshu University in Japan are opportunities that sometimes are overlooked, he said.

"Our overall objective is to prepare our students in a way that makes them competitive," Schwendiman said.

And the college seems to be succeeding, Schwendiman said that in his 10 years as dean, he remembers only two students coming into his office to tell him that they couldn't find a job.

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The greatest resource of the college is the outstanding faculty, he said. But Schwendiman said he would like to hire 12 more faculty members. Each semester, the 62 faculty members in the college serve more than 3,000 students.

Faculty salaries is an area where being tied to the state has caused difficulties, Schwendiman said.

"What we need really is freedom to use our budget to compete in the national market (for keeping and recruiting faculty)," he said.

Swendiman said that although the college has maintained its educational quality, it still has needs. In December, the NU Board of Regents approved a proposed \$6.1 million renovation and construction project for the college. But the project has not been funded by the Legislature yet. Construction and renovation would add new offices, classrooms and a link with Love Library.

Swendiman said the project is important to the college. An increase in faculty members also is needed so

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## Not free but cheap

By Stew Magnuson  
 Senior Reporter

The bad news is that UNL's Free University is not free. The good news is it only costs \$1 for UNL students and \$2 for non-students to register. Perhaps Free University's name should be changed to "Cheap University."

"We have to cover the cost of printing material and advertising," said Tim Moore, program coordinator for the Campus Activities and Programs office. "We get some support from student fees, but it's not nearly enough."

For one thin dollar participants

can still take a wide variety of courses ranging from the practical Basic Bicycle Maintenance to Tarot Reading or a Soul Travel Workshop.

More than 200 people took part in Free University last semester, Moore said. And two courses, Tarot Reading and Basic CPR already have filled up this semester.

All the courses are held on or near City Campus on evenings or weekends. Today is the final day for registration at a booth in the Nebraska Union lobby or in room 200, the CAP office, in the union.

Open courses include: "The Selective Eye — Art and Creativity in Our Lives," "Financial Planning and Asset Management," "Karate," "Evaluating Current Events — Making Sense of The News," "Judo," "Hands On Chiropractic," "Basic Bicycle Maintenance," "Proper Care of the Dog and Cat," "Protecting Yourself Against Investment Fraud," "From O Street to Wall Street And Back Again," "Money Management in Retirement Years," "Soul Travel Workshop," "Home Schooling — The 'Hows and Whys'" and "Wilhelm Reich: The Holistic Tradition in the West."

### IFC supports rec center, encourages hearing attendance

The Interfraternity Council unanimously voted to support the student recreation center and indoor practice field Thursday night at its regular meeting.

IFC joins the Panhellenic Association which voted unanimously to support the rec center at a Monday night meeting, and the Residence Hall Association and the Campus Recreation Advisory Council in endorsing the project.

"With RHA, IFC and the Panhellenic Association, maybe that would

be a significant message to the Legislature that students do want the rec center," said Rick Gestring, IFC president.

Letters have been sent to chapter presidents to encourage fraternities and sororities to postpone their meetings an hour so they can attend the legislative hearing for the student rec center, Gestring said.

"We want to get the 800 to 1,000 seats filled to show that students support the rec center," he said.

## Candidates fish for voters, debate issues

By Jen Deselms  
 Senior Reporter

A potpourri of well-dressed ASUN presidential candidates — with "Star Trek" hand salutes, buttons, banter and a red plastic fish — drew an active audience of about 200 to the Crib in the Nebraska Union Thursday.

Although laughter abounded, presidential candidates Richard Burke, NUdeal; Greg Dynek, AIM; Doug Jensen, FROG; Andy Pollock, Unite; and 1st vice-presidential candidate Jeff Porter, TREK; and Steven Showalter, HUGE, were mostly serious about the race.

The candidates agreed that changes could

improve the way ASUN serves and represents students.

Dynek said the AIM Party represents students because of the various places where the candidates live. AIM's senate candidates come from the Greek system, residence halls and off campus. Stressing communication and working on issues that affect all students, such as grading scales and videotaped classes, will improve the student government, Dynek said.

Increased communication was also a priority for the Unite, FROG and TREK parties.

Pollock said Unite plans to work more closely with college advisory boards and student groups to determine students' needs. Communication is

a two-way process, Pollock said. To make students more aware of ASUN projects, Unite would improve the ASUN newsletter, he said.

Porter said TREK would make an effort to go to the students by holding open forums in residence halls, Greek houses and East Campus.

Jensen said FROG candidates would be accessible because that's what their name — Friendly Reliable Organized Government — means.

Burke said NUdeal's active service shows its ideas for increased ASUN involvement in student needs. Burke said NUdeal has created a matching scholarship service and is looking for a job and internship program to involve students in

downtown redevelopment.

Showalter, red plastic fish strategically placed in front of his microphone, said HUGE candidates' dynamic and charismatic personalities would encourage students to become involved in ASUN. Although the red fish was not mentioned during the debate, Showalter said before the debate that whales should be saved because they are huge.

AIM, FROG, NUdeal and Unite supported a student-regent vote. Candidates from these parties said a vote would increase student influence on the Board of Regents.

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