

# Daily Nebraskan

Wednesday

**Weather:** Wednesday, partly cloudy and warmer, high in the low to middle 30s. Wednesday night, mostly clear, low in the mid to upper teens. Thursday, mostly sunny, high in the low 40s.

**A&E:** Reviews, reviews, and more reviews—Page 6.

**Sports:** Nebraska basketball coach Danny Nee prepares to face Kansas—Page 8.

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Butch Ireland/Daily Nebraskan

Kamada Kazuyuki glances at the overhead transparency during a vocabulary test.

## Agriculture students yearn to learn

By Lisa Richardson  
Staff Reporter

Akiro Iwata said he really wants to be a cowboy.

After finishing college in Japan three years ago, he wanted to visit foreign countries and learn to farm, he said.

Iwata is one of 32 Japanese men now living with Lincoln host families and studying livestock production at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's East Campus. The men were brought here through a two-year program financed by the Japanese Agricultural Training Council.

Most of the students, ages 20 to 26, entered the program after high school graduation, but some have college degrees and one is a veterinarian, said Paul Guyer, program coordinator and animal science professor.

This is the 21st group of Japanese students to study agriculture at UNL, said T.E. Hartung, dean of the College of Agriculture.

After completing four weeks of general livestock production classes, the students study specialized areas for eight weeks.

Iwata and 13 others study beef cattle production. Others study

poultry, swine or dairy cattle.

The students spent one year working on host farms in eight states. Before that, they studied English at a community college in Washington and harvested vegetables or worked in apple orchards there, Guyer said.

The money they earned went to repay the training council for the program's costs, Guyer said.

After 12 weeks at UNL, the group will return to the host farms for 2 1/2 months, Guyer said. During their final two weeks they will tour the United States by bus.

The young men enjoy life on East Campus, said Bobbi Randall, coordinator of the exchange program. They participate in intramural basketball, volleyball and soccer.

The students also spend time at the East Union and recently attended a Rodeo Club meeting, Randall said.

Randall said it is common for host families to visit former trainees in Japan, a sign of the strong ties formed by the program.

Iwata said he is not homesick for Japan.

"When I go back to Japan, I think I will miss America," he said.

He said he plans to return to the

United States or possibly move to Australia to ranch.

Both Hartung and Guyer said the United States benefits from continued cultural exchange and improved relations with Japan because of the program. Most of the trainees return to Japan to work in agriculture; some get graduate degrees, Guyer said.

Hartung said the program gives the United States influence in leadership positions for Japanese livestock production and provides a two-way flow of information through shared experience and technology.

Both men also mentioned the possibility of bettering U.S. trade stature with Japan.

"Agriculture is the only thing holding us as strong as we are with Japan," Hartung said. "They don't have the land to produce feed for livestock."

Guyer said he thinks teaching American production methods will strengthen Japanese demand for U.S. products.

Iwata also said it was necessary for the United States to balance trade with his country. The weakness of the dollar makes it difficult for Iwata and other students to pay back the council in yen.

## UNL dean dispels UTEP offer rumor

By Ryan Steeves  
Staff Reporter

Despite contrary reports, G. G. Meisels said Tuesday he is not a candidate to be president of the University of Texas at El Paso.

The El Paso Times reported Saturday that Meisels, University of Nebraska-Lincoln dean of arts and sciences, was one of six finalists for UTEP's presidency.

James Duncan, chairman of the advisory committee that chose the finalists, said five to 10 names were forwarded to the University of Texas Board of Regents. Duncan said he would not release the names of those being considered, but would not deny that Meisels was being considered.

Meisels said he went to Chicago Nov. 23 to meet with a subcommittee evaluating possible candidates. Meisels said he met with the committee to keep his career options open, but never seriously considered the position.

"To be very candid," Meisels said, "... I wasn't all that interested."

Meisels said he prefers UNL to

UTEP because UNL offers more doctorate programs, emphasizes research more and attracts a higher caliber of student.

Meisels said he has nothing against UTEP. It simply doesn't fit the type of university where he wants to work, he said.

According to the El Paso Times, those being considered for the UTEP's presidency are: Ryan Amacher, dean of commerce and industry at Clemson University, Clemson, S.C.; Robert Lineberry, dean of arts and sciences at the University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kan.; Samuel Kirkpatrick, dean of liberal arts at Arizona State University, Tempe, Ariz.; John Palms, vice chancellor of academic affairs at Emory University, Atlanta; and Diana Natalicio, interim president at UTEP.

The El Paso Times reported that three candidates were confirmed by Judson Williams, who helped evaluate the candidates. He confirmed Amacher, Kirkpatrick and Natalicio.

The other three names were obtained through a source close to the committee, the paper reported.

## Downtown project unfeasible; new plan to be implemented

By Victoria Ayotte  
Staff Reporter

More than a dozen developers that were initially interested in Lincoln's downtown redevelopment are being recontacted, Lincoln Mayor Bill Harris said Tuesday.

Taubman Co., Inc., put together a downtown redevelopment project that would cost more than \$120 million to implement. But the company announced Monday that the project wasn't feasible.

The new redevelopment project will be smaller and cheaper, regardless of who the new developer is, Harris said.

Three city councilmen said they would favor keeping the original schedule of next fall for acquisition and demolition of Block 35.

Block 35 is bordered by 10th, 11th, P and Q streets.

Gates Minnick, City Council chairman, said providing parking for the Lied Center for the Performing Arts was the main reason Block 35 would have to be demolished.

"We have a commitment to provide parking for the Lied Center, so it (parking) would have to be in place at the time of the opening of the Lied Center," Minnick said.

Council members Joseph Hampton and Bill Danley agreed with Minnick's ideas.

"One of the most important things to come out of the Taubman report is verification that if you're going to have retail anywhere, parking is one of the most important elements," Hampton said.

Harris said downtown redevelopment will take place fairly soon because "we have the money to do it."

Lincoln collected \$12 million in a bond issue for the redevelopment project. The money is currently collecting interest.

Harris expressed some concern that Lincolnites will lose interest in the redevelopment issue and get rid of the bonds.

"I want to move forward to the best of my ability so we can keep the people of Lincoln on board," Harris said.

## Helmet bill fails; proponents vow to fight

### legislature NEBRASKA

By Amy Edwards  
Senior Reporter

Sen. Dan Lynch of Omaha said he will pursue the mandatory motorcycle-helmet bill even though it failed to pass final reading Tuesday.

Nebraska legislators voted down LB428, 23-21.

Lynch said later that information from a Nebraska Parent/Teachers Association poll showed 75 percent of parents belonging to the association support a mandatory helmet law. Sixty-eight percent of American Auto Association members also support the law, he said.

Lynch said members of the American Bicyclers Against Totalitarian Action oppose the mandatory helmet bill because about 80 percent are underinsured or have no insurance for their motorcycles. Uninsured motorcyclists impose upon everyone else, Lynch said.

Sen. Scott Moore of Stromsburg proposed to return the bill to select file for an amendment that would mandate only motorcycle riders under the age of 19 to wear helmets.

Lynch said a law that required only riders under 19 to wear helmets would be hard to enforce. That law would also cause police officers to be accused of harassment if they pulled someone over who was 19 or older.

The law would have to apply to everyone because in 1987 most of the motorcyclists killed in Nebraska were more than 20 years old, Lynch said.

"It's great to say that I saved a kid who was 18 years old," he said. "But his 44-year-old father got killed. Isn't that great?"

Sen. Jacklyn Smith of Hastings proposed an amendment in conjunction with Moore's proposal requiring riders under the age of 19 to show proof they attended a motorcycle safety education course.

Both proposals failed, and the bill will not be returned to select file.

Smith said she is proposing a bill in the near future that will require all first-time motorcycle riders to provide proof of education to acquire a license.

A public hearing for the bill, LB1152, has not been scheduled.

Lynch said that although he supports motorcycle education safety, mandating it without

the helmet bill would be hypocritical.

Lynch said that .54 percent of all licensed motorcycle riders in Nebraska had taken the safety course in 1987. He said even with this low percentage, Nebraskans rank among the highest in the nation for safety course attendance.

Lynch said one problem with Smith's bill will be that 48 percent of first-time motorcycle riders don't apply for a license.

If LB428 is not brought before the floor again, it would be killed. However, Lynch said the close vote and concern from constituents assure him the bill will eventually pass.

"The bottom line is rights, and in my opinion self-destruction is not a right we have in any case," Lynch said. "We will have a motorcycle helmet law in Nebraska."