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Tipography

CORRECTION
In a story about reactions to the death of Roy Orbison (Dec. 9), Orbison was misidentified as Ray Orbison. Also, the headlines "KFRX to change format" (Dec. 8) and "Commission rejects student aid" (Dec. 12) were misleading. No errors existed in the articles. Finally, a story about the NU Board of Regents (Dec. 12) contained incorrect information. The resolution concerning the renaming of Kearney State College was only to show regent support of the idea. Only the Nebraska Legislature can make that change. The regents rejected the resolution.

INDEX

News Digest 2
Editorial 4
Sports 9
Arts & Entertainment 6
Classifieds 11



Eric Gregory/Daily Nebraskan

Watch out below

A construction worker shovels snow from the Northeast side of the Lied Center Monday morning.

Exon supports Roskens for ambassador position

By Ryan Steeves
Staff Reporter

U. S. Sen. James Exon lent support Monday to University of Nebraska President Ronald Roskens for a position in President-elect George Bush's administration.

Exon, D-Neb., said Monday night that he was speculating that Bush could name Roskens as ambassador to China, considering Roskens' familiarity with the country.

Earlier in the day, Exon told Kearney Rotarians that Bush officials probably are considering Roskens for the position.

"In Washington," Exon told the Daily Nebraskan, "there's some knowledge that President Roskens has some interest in and has educated himself in the People's Republic of China.

"I would recommend to anyone that Roskens be named to the position," he said. Roskens' wife, Lois, had no comment about the possible appointment.

"We know absolutely nothing about it," she said.

Roskens, who's been president of NU since January 1977, could not be reached for com-

ment Monday at the Doubletree Hotel in downtown Houston.

Rumors about Bush possibly considering Roskens for an administration position surfaced about a week ago when former Gov. Charles Thone met with Bush officials.

Thone said Roskens was being considered for a specific administration position at that time, but Thone would not say what position.

Exon said he has not talked with Bush or his officials and has no inside information about Roskens' status in the incoming administration.

Exon re-emphasized that he was merely speculating about the ambassador appointment. He said a logical administrative position for Roskens would be U.S. Secretary of Education. But Bush renamed Lauro Cavazos to that position November 21.

"So I was wondering what they have in mind for him and I know he has a lot of knowledge of the People's Republic of China," Exon said.

Since 1978, Roskens has traveled to China at least nine times, according to The Associated Press. Exon said Roskens has earned a

See **ROSKENS** on 5

UNL student injured in accident

From Staff Reports

A University of Nebraska-Lincoln student was injured Monday morning in a two-car accident at 16th and R streets.

According to a police report, Timothy Ingram, a senior in the College of Business Administration, was driving his 1983 Datsun west on R St. at about 9 a.m. when it collided with a car driven by John Molloy of Omaha.

The report said Molloy was driving his 1974 Ford south on 16th St. when it passed through a red light, collided with Ingram's car, and then hit a pole.

According to the report, Molloy's car was travelling too fast for the snowy conditions.

A witness said Molloy's car slid into the intersection and through the red light, the report said.

Ingram was treated at Lincoln General Hospital and released. The report said Ingram's left hand was broken in the accident.

"I think we were both going too fast for the conditions," Molloy said immediately after the accident. "We were pushing it. I'm not sure it was his (Ingram's) fault."

Molloy said both cars were sliding on the snow.

Authorities melt snowfight plans

By Victoria Ayotte
Senior Reporter

The presidents of the Association of Students of the University of Nebraska and the Interfraternity Council urged fraternity and residence hall officials to prevent any snowball fight Monday night.

ASUN president Jeff Petersen and John Smith, IFC president, spoke to all presidents of fraternities along 16th street, in the area where the snowball fight has traditionally begun.

Petersen said he and Smith also spoke to the residence directors of Abel and Cather halls, urging them to tell residents not to become involved in a snowball fight.

Petersen said his efforts were prompted by

the nice weather and the good snowball packing he found.

"We heard from various rumors they (the snowball fighters) were not satisfied with the last one," Petersen said.

Petersen said he and Smith basically told everybody to "do their best to keep people inside."

All the fraternity and residence hall officials were "real supportive and real positive," he said.

Petersen said that if a fight does not happen, students must have realized that a snowball fight isn't "some funny little joke."

As of midnight Monday, a large snowball

See **SNOW** on 2

Ethanol study could aid state, expert says

By Jerry Guenther
Staff Reporter

Ethanol production research at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln could help broaden the economic base of Nebraska in the future, according to two UNL professors.

Tyrrell Conway, assistant professor of biological sciences, said that as the world's supply of fossil fuels dries up, the need for ethanol is expected to increase.

Conway, who worked for 3 1/2 years on an ethanol conversion research team at the University of Florida, said UNL could play a key role in ethanol fermentation research.

While at Florida, Conway was responsible for much of the research that used zymomonas in a 12-step process to convert sugar to alcohol. Zymomonas is a bacterium used in ethanol production.

Conway said zymomonas is added

to a corn mash which has been pretreated to release glucose. That glucose is then converted to ethanol, he said.

"Zymomonas is extremely efficient during this process," Conway said. "It's able to convert the sugar to alcohol at a rate more rapid than the brewery yeast which are traditionally used."

Another advantage of zymomonas is that it's able to make a higher concentration of alcohol, Conway said.

Yeast yields average about 12 percent ethanol while zymomonas is between 13 and 14 percent ethanol, he said.

Although Conway said he believes zymomonas is better to use than yeast, it is not yet widely used by companies in the ethanol industry.

"There are a few plants which are beginning to switch over," Conway said.

William Scheller, professor of

chemical engineering, said ethanol has other uses besides fuel.

Ethanol also is used for plastics, aspirin, paints and dyes, he said.

Scheller said he'd like to see the development of a grain alcohol industry in Nebraska. Such an industry would create jobs, bring additional income into the state and could help to increase the state tax revenues, he said.

"I have felt in the past, and continue to feel that ethanol can be the basis for major economic development in Nebraska," Scheller said.

Currently, Scheller said, there is only one commercial ethanol plant in the state.

He said the lack of venture capital in the state is the main reason for there not being more plants.

"We need to see a change in the philosophy of Nebraska banks," Scheller said. "You need venture capital for developing new industries."



John Bruce/Daily Nebraskan