

## ConAgra's donation to NU to help finance 3 programs

By Eric Pfanner  
Staff Reporter

A \$550,000 grant from ConAgra to the NU Foundation will significantly help support several programs at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln College of Agriculture, an agriculture official said.

Irvin Omtvedt, vice chancellor of the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources, said the donation "is very significant in terms of reaching our objectives for strategic planning."

"Other grants are coming in," he said, but ConAgra's is "larger and broader" than the rest.

The donation will help finance three programs, he said. The Food Processing Center in H.C. Filley Hall will be remodeled and renovated with \$250,000, he said. Filley Hall is currently undergoing an \$11 million renovation program that is adding a new wing to the building, Omtvedt said.

The addition will be finished by mid-June, he said, while the entire renovation should be completed by the end of this year.

When the renovation is com-

pleted, Filley Hall will house the Department of Food Science and Technology, the Department of Agricultural Economics, the Agricultural Marketing Center and the Food Processing Center.

Also included in the ConAgra donation is \$300,000 for the interdisciplinary agribusiness program. Of the \$300,000, \$250,000 will support hiring a ConAgra Distinguished Chairperson for Agribusiness.

But some of the \$250,000 for agribusiness also will help support internships in the field, Omtvedt said.

"There will be some impact beyond just bringing in an individual," he said.

Omtvedt said the graduate program in agribusiness will receive the remaining \$50,000.

Funding and "bringing in an individual with national prominence" will "give visibility to the unique program" in agribusiness.

The program in agribusiness at UNL is unique, he said, because it is the only one in the United States that is a "truly joint interest" between two colleges, business and agriculture.

## Reunion will add apartments

By Brandon Loomis  
Senior Reporter

After a three-month struggle to get zoning approval from the city council, the Reunion's developer is ready to start construction on 18 apartments above the student center.

David Hunter said he hopes to start constructing the 17 one-bedroom and one two-bedroom units within 30 days.

James Griesen, University of Nebraska-Lincoln vice chancellor for student affairs, said the university had opposed the zoning decision because it would create an "enclave" of housing on campus that the university would have no control

over.

"We try to maintain a certain climate on campus," Griesen said, and having the apartments in the middle of campus could make it hard to preserve that climate.

"We'd have liked to keep all housing on campus under university control," he said.

Hunter said the university is concerned that residents in the apartments will have parties the university will be unable to regulate.

"They think that just because they have an alcohol problem (on campus) then everyone has a problem," Hunter said.

"My suggestion is they should worry about their own house before they start throwing stones at someone

else's."

Hunter said if residents constantly have parties, they will be asked to leave, just as with any apartment.

University officials should realize that there probably will be fewer parties at his apartments than in fraternities and sororities, Hunter said.

Hunter said the apartments will not be geared toward attracting traditional students. Rent for the one bedroom units will be at least \$450 a month, which is too high for most students, he said. The two-bedroom apartment will cost \$550 a month, he said.

The apartments should help to fill the need for faculty and married student housing, Hunter said.

Construction should be done by early fall, he said.

## Rodeo club adviser defends importance of competition

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petitors trip steers with ropes and then tie three of their legs.

In most rodeos, no animals are injured, Pfeiffer said.

"I don't know how many thousands of rodeos I've been to, but I've maybe seen one animal injured."

Pfeiffer said cows occasionally will break a horn during competitions, but injuries to animals are much less severe and frequent in rodeo than in other sports.

"I'm not too crazy about making comparisons, but it's a whole lot less than you see in horse racing," he said.

Rodeo is both culturally and financially important as a sport, Pfeiffer said.

"In the cosmic sense of things, I don't suppose rodeo's any more important than football. If it were halted, the world wouldn't come to an end," he said. "On the other hand, it's a livelihood for a lot of people."

"I think it would be tragic."

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