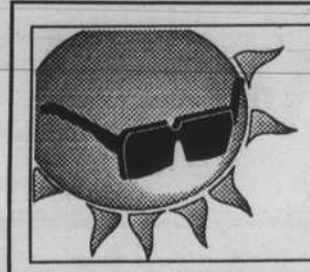


# Daily Nebraskan

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TODAY'S WEATHER

58/30

Today, mostly sunny and warmer, north winds 5 to 15 mph. Tonight, partly cloudy. Tuesday, partly sunny with highs in the lower to mid-50s.



Staci McKee/DN

Andrei Viniarski sits in the Calvary United Methodist Church, where he recently was baptised. He said the opportunity to go to church in America was important to him, because it was not allowed while he served in the Russian military.

## Escaping chaos

### Russian teacher eagerly awaits admittance to UNL

By Trevor Meers  
Staff Reporter

While many UNL students are making plans to head home for the summer, one potential student is doing everything he can to get in school — and stay in America.

Andrei Viniarski, 29, arrived in New York City from Russia Feb. 26. He came to Lincoln, he said, to escape the fragmented remains of the former Soviet Union and to finish his education at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Viniarski is from Gorky, a city located about 250 miles east of Moscow. After the fall of the Soviet Union, all Communist city names were changed, and the city of 2 million now is called Nizniy Novgorod.

Viniarski graduated from the Teacher's Training College of Foreign Languages in Gorky in 1989 after five years of studying and training as an interpreter. He speaks Spanish and English.

After graduating, Viniarski entered the Soviet Air Force for the two years of mandatory military service required of every Russian male.

He said Communist officials used the Air Force for their own gain, just as they used all of Russian society. High-ranking military officers often would take the place of servicemen on flights to scenic countries. The officers took "pleasure trips," he said, while the servicemen lost training time.

When he retired from his service as a radio operator in August 1991, Viniarski began teaching. He also started looking for opportunities for graduate study in America.

He heard and read about UNL, he said, and corresponded with professors in the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures.

"I think this university can give me great possibilities," he said.

When he came to America to pursue graduate studies at UNL, Viniarski left behind his wife Angela, a pediatrician, and his two-year-old daughter Christina. He eventually wants to bring them to America, he said.

Viniarski said he must be admitted to UNL as a graduate student before August or his visa would expire, and he would be

forced to return to Russia. But he is optimistic about his chances for staying, he said.

He has completed one university entrance exam, he said, and his diploma, which is needed for admission to UNL, is on its way from Russia.

Viniarski said that UNL was not the only good thing he found in the United States. He also has found political stability. He is glad to get a break from Russia's political upheavals, he said.

"I am applying to stay here because Russia is on the brink of civil war," he said. "It's torn apart."

Viniarski said he could name hundreds of factors that might divide Russians and cause a civil war. Russians are polarizing into groups based on issues such as nationality and political parties, he said.

"Many people claim to be intelligent, but the major feature of intelligence is tolerance, and this feature is rare in Russia," he said.

"People want to speak up as much as

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## Search for Devaney's replacement beginning

### Spanier says process will be 'by the book'

By Erik Unger  
Staff Reporter

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln is beginning a search this week to find a replacement for Athletic Director Bob Devaney when he retires Jan. 4.

UNL Chancellor Graham Spanier said the university would conduct a national search that would not exclude anyone, even someone from inside the athletic department.

Despite reports that the committee already might have some possible candidates, Spanier said the selection process would be confidential and at no time during the process would he speculate on who would fill the position.

"We will conduct this search in the normal way that administrative searches are conducted — by the book," he said.

But Spanier said he was expecting much speculation before the decision was announced.

"Because this is a university with a high interest in athletics, people will have a lot of opinions," he said.

James O'Hanlon, dean of the UNL Teachers College and the faculty representative for athletics, told The Omaha World-Herald that he would be the chairman of the search committee, according to an article in Sunday's World-Herald. O'Hanlon declined to comment to the Daily Nebraskan.

Spanier said he hoped to have a decision by September. But he said the date was highly variable and depended on the committee's schedule, the number of applicants and their schedules.

Spanier added that he wanted to name the committee's choice early enough to let the

See ATHLETIC on 6

## Student gets public defender in fraud case

By Roger Price  
Senior Editor

A UNL student charged with student loan fraud and numerous other crimes appeared in Lancaster County Court March 25 to request that a public defender be appointed to represent her.

Deborah Reinke, 36, is charged with illegally obtaining two student loans totalling \$500. Other charges include theft, possession of stolen property, writing bad checks, criminal

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### MONDAY

Bill Clinton admits using marijuana while in college. Page 2

Husker baseball team takes three games from Kansas to start conference. Page 7

DN critics predict winners and favorites for tonight's Academy Awards. Page 11



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## Ex-UNL employee seeks state seat

### Education, Medicare candidate's priorities

By Sean Green  
Senior Reporter

A former UNL employee has tossed his hat into the ring for the 27th legislative district seat.

Gerald Svoboda of 2540 S. 17th St. said he had been considering running for office for three years and finally decided the time was right.

"I think that with my experience and background I can add considerably to the legislative process in many areas," he said.

Svoboda will face incumbent Sen. DiAnna Schimek of Lincoln and two other contenders in the May 12 primary. Two of the four candidates then will go on to the general election in November.

Svoboda, 61, worked on and off at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln from 1953 to 1963 as a hydrologist and hydrological field assistant at UNL's Conservation and Survey Division.

"I've been in the field of research and education for much of my life," he said. "Those areas are still uppermost in my mind and heart."

If elected, he said, the concerns of university students would be high on his list of priorities.

Svoboda said he supported the ideas of UNL

Chancellor Graham Spanier, especially his desire to upgrade and correct the curriculum in secondary schools to prepare students for college.

"It is extremely important that our students have the background to help them compete," he said. "I fully support curriculum changes in the area of research and education."

Svoboda was a private consultant for the U.S. Defense Department. He worked at the Joint Tactical Fusion Program Office in McLean, Va., and served as a technical expert for the analysis and reporting of foreign advances in remote sensing, general geology, geomorphology, geohydrology, mineral resources and agronomy.

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