

Final stanza

Retiring symphony conductor notes changing UNL, world

By Virginia Newton
Staff Reporter

For 15 years, students of the University Symphony Orchestra and the Lincoln Symphony have been guided to perfection by the same dedicated conductor.

This era will come to an end in the spring of 1993 when Robert Emile, a professor of strings and music theory at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, retires as conductor of the Lincoln Symphony.

Although Emile will retire from the Lincoln Symphony, he will retain his employment at UNL as a professor and conductor of the University Symphony Orchestra.

Throughout the years, Emile said, he has seen students and musicians come and go. Both the university and the department have diversified considerably, he said.

"The university has changed a great deal," he said. "I think that those of us who deal with the arts are recipients of whatever changes are happening. The students are different, the world is different, so

we're different.

"There are certain things that don't change in life, like talent," he said. "But the attitudes of the community and the state of Nebraska and throughout the country have changed since 1975."

A native of New York, Emile graduated from Yale University, in New Haven, Conn., in 1947 with a bachelor's of arts degree. He received his master's degree in 1949, and his doctorate of musical arts from Eastman-School of Music, in Rochester, N.Y., in 1957.

After working at several universities, Emile joined UNL's music department in 1975.

The joint appointment between the Lincoln Symphony and the UNL Orchestra was arranged by both the symphony and UNL, Emile said.

"They wanted someone with experience so it was arranged that they would open up a position which was for both parties," he said.

"There has been a lot of cooperation between the school and symphony, even before I took over both positions and will continue to be after I'm gone."

Emile's love of music is no accident. His parents, as well as his older sister, are musicians. His father



Erik Unger/DN

Robert Emile, professor of strings and music theory, stands in a rehearsal room in Westbrook Music Building.

was not only musically inclined, but was also a certified public accountant.

Emile's mother was a voice teacher and an organist, his sister a concert pianist.

"It was the kind of environment that was very conducive for a young

person to study music," he said.

Emile said he was looking forward to the changes that could occur after he retired from the symphony, and said he was keeping his options open for the future.

"I have some feelers out, but it's over a year away," he said. "... There are opportunities out there,

and I don't necessarily want to leave Lincoln, but I may."

"I just felt that I needed change," he said. "I thought change was good for me, I thought it was good for the players, we've gotten little bit used to each other. I felt it was time to do something else."

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Regents change names of agriculture degrees

By Jared Wittwer
Staff Reporter

Traditional agricultural engineering students at UNL and those in the new field of biological systems engineering will be able to pursue new master of science and doctorate degrees, an official said.

Glenn Hoffman, head of the department of biological systems engineering, said the names of the degrees were broadened to allow students in both areas to pursue graduate degrees at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

At its March 16 meeting, the NU Board of Regents approved changing master of science and doctorate degrees in "agricultural engineering" and "mechanized agriculture" to "agricultural and biological systems engineering" and "mechanized systems management," Hoffman said.

He said the new names reflected changes in the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources. In March

of 1990, IANR changed the name of the agricultural engineering master and doctorate degrees to agricultural and biological systems engineering.

The new name also reflects changes in the field, Hoffman said, as opportunities in agriculture expand off the farm.

Hoffman said similar changes also were made in undergraduate degrees in the biological systems engineering department.

Many students have been attracted to undergraduate degrees in water science, mechanized systems management, agricultural engineering and biological systems engineering, he said.

Students should have bright futures in agriculture, business and industry, he said, because specialists are needed to address new product opportunities and growing environmental concerns, such as hazardous waste control.



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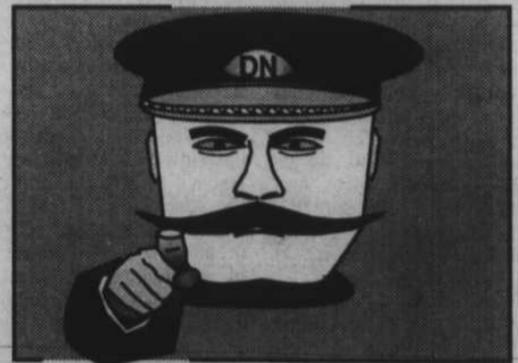
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