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# Rudd

Continued from Page 1

Graduate students as well as undergraduate students are a part of Rudd's research team. He said that working in a lab as an undergraduate provides valuable assistance for the professor as well as experience for the student.

Outside of the lab, Rudd enjoys collecting old classics in science books

like Faraday, Maxwell, Newton and LaVoisier.

Rudd has travelled to several countries around the world, including Russia, Japan and various western European nations.

Once when he and a Polish colleague were attending a conference in Rome, the colleague mentioned that he had had the Pope as a Sunday school teacher.

The colleague made an attempt to arrange a visit with the Pope, but his

schedule was booked.

Rudd said he also has an enthusiasm for classical church music, and

— **“** *You use physics to look at the world*

*Rudd*  
*UNL physics professor*

has enjoyed singing in the Lincoln Lutheran Choir for several years.

Leaving the lab, Rudd spotted two of his three graduate students camped out on the floor, laboring over a sizable mechanical apparatus.

The two students relayed the current malfunction. Rudd grinned, explaining that the machine was only a dehumidifier, not any of the actual physics equipment used for experiments, but that of course the dehumidifier was important too.

# Duties of commission may overlap regents

OMAHA (AP)—The president of the University of Nebraska system says Nebraska's new Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education needs to remember the difference between coordinating and governing.

Martin Massengale said that while the commission's 11 members are hard-working and dedicated to improving higher education in the state, they need a keener understanding of commission duties and how they differ from those of the NU Board of Regents.

The volume of detailed information 13 public universities and colleges in Nebraska are being asked to provide to the commission's staff reflects an involvement more appropriate for a university governing board than a state coordinating agency, Massengale said.

Massengale's comments addressed a question that arose when the state first considered forming the commission: How can that agency avoid encroaching on management responsibilities that belong to college and university boards of directors?

A coordinating commission with little authority had existed before in Nebraska. The Legislature and Nebraska voters, convinced the state needed a more powerful agency to reduce duplication of programs and make higher education more efficient, approved formation of a stronger commission in 1990.

The former agency, with a staff of

three and a budget of \$182,134, became a regulatory body with 11 staff members and a budget of \$872,333 in 1992-93. The staff is full-time employees who provide the 11 commissioners with legal and technical expertise and help in public relations.

The commission by law can veto proposed academic programs, eliminate existing ones, disapprove construction projects and modify college budget requests to state government.

"I think both Martin (Massengale) and I agree that the commission does not want to be involved in governance," said Bruce Stahl, executive director of the coordinating commission.

Carrol Krause, executive director of the State College Board of Trustees, said of the commission, "So far, I'm certainly optimistic that we can make things work."

He said he was puzzled why state law gives the commission authority to review construction projects financed by revenue bonds when no state money is used to pay for those projects.

"We've got to ask detailed questions so we have more than a cursory understanding of what they're proposing," Stahl said. "We're not trying to create a bureaucratic nightmare."

Stahl said he and his staff have been open to suggestions while creating rules and procedures over the past five months. In the past month, he said, he had 14 meetings with representatives of the colleges and universities.



*Around the Bend*

Stacie McKee/DN

Jim Elworth of Lincoln takes a few laps around the Ed Weir track Tuesday afternoon. Elworth said he tries to run four miles a day to work on a knee injury he sustained from playing football.

# Nelson calls lawmakers to special session

LINCOLN (AP) — Gov. Ben Nelson said he'll call the Legislature into a special session on taxes beginning Aug. 5.

The announcement ended weeks of speculation after voters approved a constitutional amendment to allow the Legislature to change the way it taxes personal property.

"I'm going to call this my belt and

suspenders special session to come down on the side of practicality and make sure there are no legal challenges to the passage of the tax bill and amendment," Nelson said.

Attorney General Don Stenberg strongly urged Nelson to call a special session so lawmakers could re-enact the tax law (LB1063) they passed before the constitutional amendment

was approved.

The amendment gave lawmakers the constitutional authority to make the changes they had already made in the tax bill. The attorney general and others had warned that there was no guarantee a court would agree that the amendment the voters approved in May made the new tax law passed in March legal.

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