

# Agriculture Institute digs up plan

By Sam S. Kepfield  
Staff Reporter

Work is underway to begin implementing a new strategic plan developed by the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

The new plan, completed in June, builds upon an earlier project done in 1989. Irv Omtvedt, vice chancellor of Agriculture and Natural Resources, said that the plan as a whole focuses on the different roles that agriculture plays in Nebraska's economy.

"Too often, agriculture is thought of as just production. Our emphasis is on various value-added processes," Omtvedt said. "We must reach beyond what is traditionally thought of as traditionally agricultural."

Omtvedt said that the plan guides the IANR in several ways.

The earlier plan guided budgeting and redirected funds to areas identified as needing improvement, and nearly 15 percent of IANR's budget is allocated in such a manner.

The areas targeted for improvement under the new plan focused on agribusiness, nutrition, strengthening farming communities and environmental concerns.

IANR began joint degree programs in agribusiness with the College of Business and Administration and in environmental sciences with the College of Arts and Sciences, under a linkage program.

Student recruitment, retention and advisement was another priority for IANR, Omtvedt said. Emphasis will be placed on tailoring curriculum for the individual students as well as giving them greater exposure to communications and business.

The plan developed after a meeting with 100 agriculture-related orga-

nizations in Lincoln, as well as six listening sessions across the state. The IANR also met with the Lincoln and Omaha Chambers of Commerce.

The need for a strategic plan grew in part from the upturn in enrollment since bottoming out in the late 1980s. Soon after his appointment as vice chancellor in 1987, Omtvedt detected a shortage of trained agriculture professionals.

The strategic plan of 1989 and the updated 1992 version are more than just an obligatory pet project that new administrators sometimes undertake, Omtvedt said.

IANR coordinators met this week on East Campus to discuss development of action plans to implement the strategic plan. Final recommendations could be released by Nov. 15.

# Sarajevo escapes stalled

SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina (AP) — More than 300 women and children gathered Wednesday amid the echo of sniper fire, waiting to flee Sarajevo after besieging Serb forces agreed to allow their evacuation.

The 340 mothers and children were to board five buses headed for Croatia under U.N. escort. Three of the buses were to then travel on to Austria. The other two were to stay in Croatia.

The convoy was delayed for unknown reasons yesterday morning. Only one bus had arrived at the boarding point by 2 p.m. (8 a.m. EDT) and it was not known when the others would come.

Children were becoming restless after waiting for five hours in temperatures reaching 95 degrees.

"I don't really want to go because my father is wounded. But I can't take the whistling of bullets in my ears," said 9-year-old Muamar Vates.

The Serb forces surrounding the city agreed Tuesday with the Children's Embassy charity in Sarajevo to allow all children under 18 and their mothers to leave.

The agreement came as the U.N. Security Council expected to vote today on the possible use of force to protect relief shipments to Sarajevo and other areas of Bosnia cut off by Serb forces.

Serb militants could be trying to deflect criticism being directed at them, but their offer of safe passage to refugees also could be aimed at moving many Croats and Muslims out of Sarajevo and make the city easier to capture.

Serbs have captured about two-thirds of Bosnian territory since war broke out after Muslims and Croats voted on Feb. 29 for independence from Serb-dominated Yugoslavia. At least 8,000 people have died in the fighting.

Sarajevo came under heavy shelling Tuesday night from Serb positions around the capital. One shell landed in front of the Bosnian defense headquarters late Tuesday, wounding three people, local officials said. Earlier, four shells reportedly hit the presidency building.

Many of those waiting to leave

Sarajevo Wednesday morning were refugees from eastern Bosnia, where Serbs have captured large swaths of territory.

Nine-year-old Muamar and his family had been living in the basement of a house belonging to Halima Podric.

"Living underground sucks the souls out of these kids," Podric said. "It is almost worse than death."

Ibro Melic, 49, was saying farewell to his 5-year-old son Adnan as the Children's Embassy read out a list of those who were to board the buses.

"He is going to Vienna and I'm going to the frontline," he said. "This could be the last time I see him."

An evacuation of children last month was not escorted and came under fire. Two children were killed.

In another conciliatory gesture, the Bosnian Serbs' self-styled parliament asked the U.N. Security Council to inform it what to do in order to "avoid a military intervention and the bloodshed that would accompany it."

"Although Serb soldiers cannot imagine fighting soldiers from England, France, the United States and other (World War II allies), international military intervention would create an uncontrollable process whose outcome cannot be foreseen," a statement said.

It pledged not to impede humanitarian relief and open the detention camps that shocked the world to international inspection. Therefore, it said, "military intervention for humanitarian reasons would not be justified."

But despite the Serbs' apparent flexibility, in northern Bosnia, they were forcing about 28,000 people, mostly Muslims, from their homes, U.N. officials said.

The draft U.N. resolution, circulated to the 15-member Security Council, asks all states to use "all measures necessary" — implying use of force — to safeguard deliveries of food and humanitarian aid.

NATO scheduled a special meeting for Friday to consider contingency plans being drawn up for the possible use of force to deliver aid.

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The Daily Nebraskan (USPS 144-080) is published by the UNL Publications Board, Nebraska Union 34, 1400 R St., Lincoln, Neb. 68588-0448, weekdays during the academic year (except holidays); weekly during the summer session.

Readers are encouraged to submit story ideas and comments to the Daily Nebraskan by phoning 472-1763 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. The public also has access to the Publications Board. For information, contact Tom Massey, 488-8761.

Subscription price is \$45 for one year. Postmaster: Send address changes to the Daily Nebraskan, Nebraska Union 34, 1400 R St., P.O. Box 880448, Lincoln, Neb. 68588-0448. Second-class postage paid at Lincoln, Neb.

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1992 DAILY NEBRASKAN

# Party

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liamentary offices. There were no victories, but some candidates polled as high as 20 percent of the vote — impressive, Wiedershine said, for a infant party running in a multiparty system. One major British newspaper noted that the appearance of the party was the "most significant thing to happen to the country during the election."

Currently in the United States, the party is on the ballot in 19 states, and 21 more will be added in the near future. Wiedershine said that the party would not be on the ballot in 10 states because it failed to meet filing deadlines or registration requirements.

He said he expected Nebraska to certify the Natural Law Party for the November ballot. More than 2,000 signatures are needed by August 25.

The purpose of the party, Wiedershine said, is to "bring the light of science into politics, and the support of natural law to America." As such, Wiedershine said, the party sees itself as the heir of Thomas Jefferson in upholding a tradition of rational thinking in public debate.

The party's platform is based on integrating sound scientific principles into all facets of public policy making, he said.

Health care, a major concern this election year, would be supplemented by preventive natural medicine. Government waste would be eliminated by use of scientific principles to

streamline administration, which would encourage growth, in turn reducing taxes.

The Natural Law Party's defense strategy is to create a "more coherent consciousness" among the electorate to reduce tensions at home and eventually abroad. Wiedershine said that the party does not favor massive, immediate defense cuts, but that reductions would come gradually as their policies take effect.

The most important element of their platform and strategy, Wiedershine said, is that the party is "neither conservative nor liberal, neither Republican nor Democratic" in its philosophy.

Once in office, Natural Law leaders would build a consensus with both sides, using any technological means available to solve the problems facing the country, he said.

The ultimate goal is to elect the Hagelin/Tompkins ticket. But more importantly, according to Wiedershine, is publicizing the platform and policies of the party, so that it can influence the direction of decision making no matter who is elected.

Wiedershine said that the goal of winning the White House is not as far fetched as it may first appear. The party, if it continues to grow at the current rate, will be the third largest political party in America by November.

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