

# Daily Nebraskan

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University of Nebraska-Lincoln

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Yeltsin  
Clinton  
Summit

DIGEST



FRIDAY



50/35  
Partly sunny for today  
and warmer. Tonight,  
increasing cloudiness.  
Saturday, cloudy.  
Sunday, dry.

## McElroy declared competent to face charges in court

### Treatment helping offset disorder, psychiatrist says

By Jeff Zeleny  
Senior Reporter

Arthur McElroy suffers from a paranoid delusional disorder but is stable enough to stand trial, a psychiatrist testified in Lancaster County District Court

Thursday. Dr. Louis Martin of the Lincoln Regional Center said he had been evaluating the former University of Nebraska-Lincoln graduate student since December, and that he was convinced McElroy was aware of the trial's implications.

After about 30 minutes of testimony from Martin, Judge Donald Endacott ruled that McElroy was competent to stand trial.

The paranoid disorder made McElroy believe that some force was against him and thereby gave him an

unrealistic view of the world, Martin said.

After taking daily doses of the tranquilizer Thorazine and undergoing numerous evaluations, Martin said, McElroy showed general improvement and could deal with the stress of a trial.

"He's had time to adjust to this," Martin said. "He could go through the process without breaking down because of stress."

McElroy, 43, is charged with attempted second-degree murder, making terroristic threats and using a

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—Martin  
psychiatrist, Lincoln Regional Center

weapon to commit a felony (two counts) during an Oct. 12 incident in Ferguson Hall.

McElroy allegedly held a semiau-

tomatic weapon on about 20 students and attempted to fire, but the gun

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## Spanier picks top research administrator

### Appointment of Minnesota official ends long search

By Matt Woody  
Staff Reporter

The search is over. After nearly three years of phone calls, interviews and visits, Chancellor Graham Spanier announced Thursday his appointment for the position of vice chancellor for research at UNL.

Dr. Priscilla Grew, the director of the Minnesota Geological Survey at the University of Minnesota, must be approved for the position by the University of Nebraska Board of Regents before she officially assumes the job.

Stan Liberty, dean of the College of Engineering and Technology, who chaired the search committee, said that Grew received a very favorable response from all involved in the search. He said he was optimistic about her appointment.

"She has excellent interpersonal skills. She's a very good listener," Liberty said. "I think she's got the potential to be a very effective leader for the university in this area."

Grew could not be reached Thursday for comment.

Although the search for the position took a long time, Liberty said he was pleased with the process.

Part of the difficulty in choosing a candidate was due to a large pool of highly qualified applicants, he said.

"The screening process was very challenging for the search committee, because the quality of the candidates was very outstanding," Liberty said.

Grew's duties as vice chancellor for research will include overseeing the University of Nebraska State Museum, the University of Nebraska Press and numerous committees and research centers at UNL.

Grew will begin in September 1993 and will be paid \$110,000 per year.

She received her undergraduate degree in geology from Bryn Mawr College in 1962 and her doctorate from the University of California at Berkeley in 1967.

Before taking on her present post at the University of Minnesota, she served for four years as the director of the Department of Conservation for the State of California and for five years as commissioner of the California Public Utilities Commission.



Jeff Haller/DN

Wheeler Dixon, chairman of the film studies program, said the viewers of his latest film, "What Can I Do?" get a chance to look at themselves.

## Behind the scenes Professor writes, produces, directs new feature film

By Michelle Leary  
Senior Reporter

Wheeler Winston Dixon, chairman of the film studies program at UNL, has gone beyond the realms of teaching the art of filmmaking.

Dixon once again has entered the working world of film as the director, producer and screenwriter of his latest film, "What Can I Do?"

The 80-minute feature film, which is now in post-production, was shot in Los

Angeles in January and is expected to be completed by November, Dixon said.

Dixon was able to fund his film after he received the 1993-1994 Layman Foundation Award, worth \$18,000.

The money was divided in half for production expenses and for the actual shooting of the film.

"We had budgeted the money to cover a week of shooting, but we finished filming in one day," he said. "We were really surprised, but all the scenes just seemed to work."

Dixon is now in the process of locating \$18,000 to finish the film, he said.

"The film was remarkably inexpensive to make," Dixon said. Many of the actors and staff worked for union wages, which was minimum wage, or for free.

Anna Lee, who plays the main character, agreed to make the film for union scale after she read and fell in love with the script, Dixon said. Lee stars in the daytime soap opera "General Hospital" as

See DIXON on 6

## Aviation, pilot theory courses to be offered at UNL in fall

By Joel Strauch  
Staff Reporter

UNL students may not be able to get off the ground yet, but next semester they will be able to take introductory aviation courses at the Lincoln campus.

Beginning next fall, the University of Nebraska at Omaha Aviation Institute will offer two aviation courses at UNL.

"This is a great opportunity for aviation education in Lincoln," said Brent Bowen, director of the Aviation

Institute at UNO. "We feel fortunate to be invited by Chancellor Graham Spanier."

Spanier, a licensed commercial pilot, toured UNO's Aviation Institute facilities last December and, according to Bowen, seemed excited about the joint program.

The two classes to be offered are Introduction to Aviation, which is an overview of the air transportation system, and Private Pilot Theory, a basic teaching of flying without leaving the ground.

The pilot theory class provides the

ground instruction needed to take and pass the Federal Aviation Administration's private pilot written exam.

The development of actual flight courses at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln will be determined by the success of the ground courses, Bowen said.

"We hope to find expertise available in Lincoln to teach these classes," Bowen said. "If not, we will provide instructors from Omaha."

Eventually, he said, courses may be taught over the airwaves by satel-

“This is a great opportunity for aviation education in Lincoln.”

—Bowen  
director of the aviation institute at UNO

lite. On Wednesday and Thursday, the Aviation Institute sponsored a booth in the Nebraska Union with information about the two fall courses.

David McChesney, a UNL graduate student and a volunteer at the booth, said the Aviation Institute offi-

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