

Summer
Daily

NEBRASKAN

THURSDAY
JULY 8, 1993
VOL. 92
NO. 159
UNIVERSITY OF
NEBRASKA-
LINCOLN

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U.S. education system failing, Kerrey says

By Brian Sharp
Staff Reporter

When U.S. Sen. Bob Kerrey (D-Neb.) spoke at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln on Tuesday, he brought a message from Washington about the state of education.

And that message was the U.S. education system has been failing. "Things aren't working," Kerrey said. "We're pushing people into the workforce out of high school that, very often, don't have the skills to survive."

Kerrey, who was in Lincoln to speak to the Nebraska Economic Fellows Institute for Secondary Teachers, said the government has failed to teach the American public.

Kerrey said the role of government was to provide people with information they need to make decisions, and by that definition they have failed, he said, by providing only for the elite researchers, not the average citizen.

"We need to change the way we approach learning as adult citizens," Kerrey said.

In order to provide people with the necessary information, he said, it is important to change the way it is delivered. Developing an electronic library is a possible option, he said.

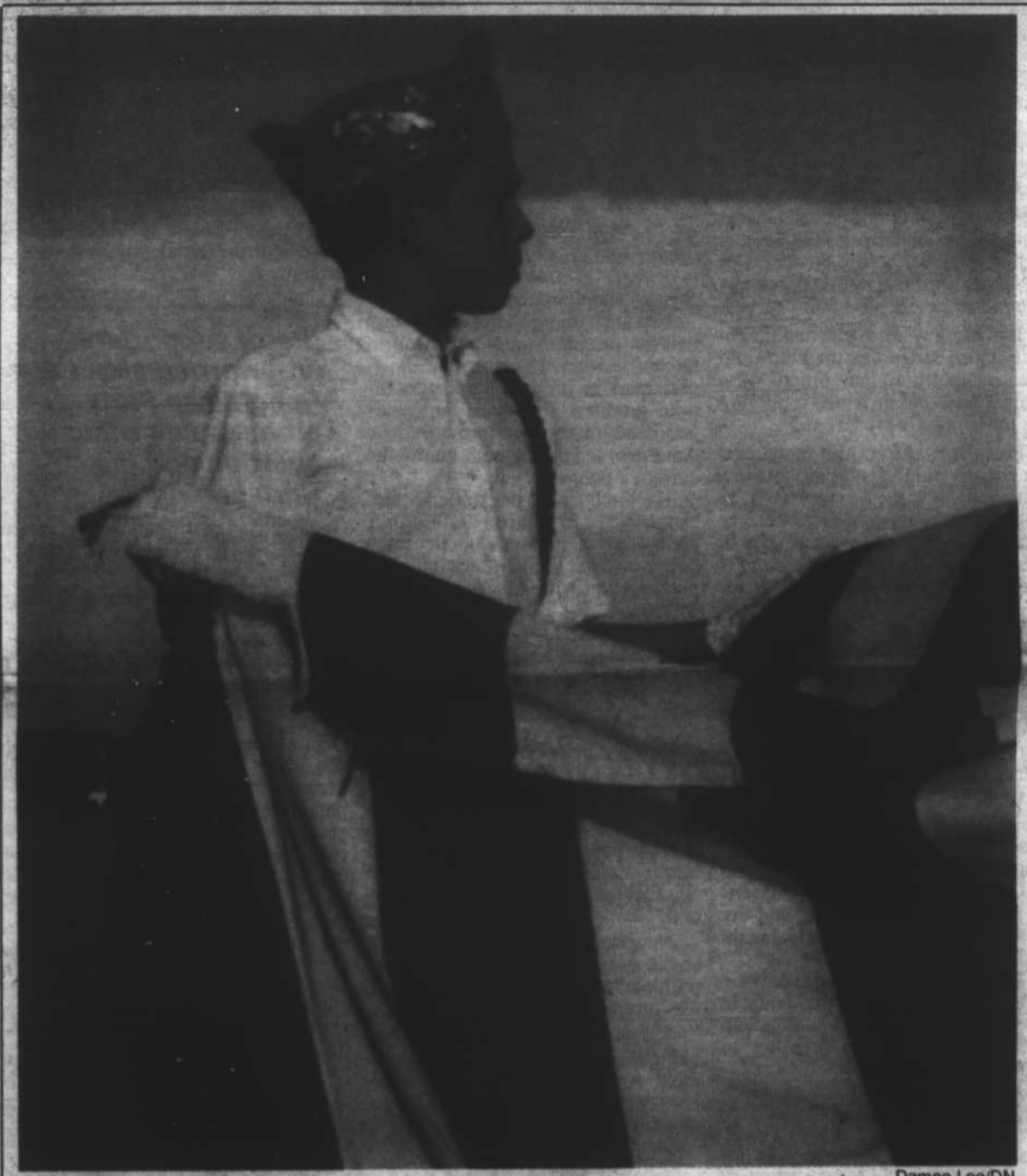
Instead of people waiting for information, Kerrey said, it would be possible, with the aid of computers, for people to have their questions answered in the classroom or in their own homes.

Kerrey said although today's problems may seem overwhelming, there was just that much stronger of a need to address them.

The challenge, he said, is to find a remedy people will believe in and find effective.

"There is nothing worse than do-

See **KERREY** on 3



Billy Christen of Lincoln, commander of the Sons of the Veterans Of Foreign Wars Post 923, assists in the lowering and folding of the flag at Holmes Lake during July 4th celebrations.

Damon Lee/DN

Students donate time, energy to city's homeless

By Brian Sharp
Staff Reporter

While millions of dollars went up in smoke during Fourth of July celebrations last weekend, one group of UNL students were thinking about those less fortunate.

Those without fireworks, without food and without a home.

Some of those people were at The Gathering Place, where they were served soup, crackers, bread, doughnuts and drink on Independence Day at no cost.

The Gathering Place, 1448 E St., has provided free meals every day for about six years. It opened in May 1982, thanks to the actions of various members of the Lincoln community.

Having started last June, on the first Sunday of every month, UNL Nebraskans for Peace has staffed the soup kitchen.

According to the group, they are taking direct action to make the world a better place, and eliminating hunger is high on their list.

"(The goal is) to promote peace and justice and help promote better social understanding," said Lisa Schuetzle, a UNL masters candidate in anthropology.

The group, which meets monthly, was started last April by UNL Professor Rob Benford, and is affiliated with the larger state organization of Nebraskans for Peace. Last spring, about 40 students became members, and the group is planning a major push for new members in the fall.

Activities so far have included a booth at the Earth Day celebration last spring, and now the soup kitchen. They will be helping to sponsor Pastor's for Peace, July 19, in providing humanitarian aid to Cuba.

"When school starts, we're going

See **PEACE** on 7

College of Fine and Performing Arts created

UNL's School of Music, department of theatre arts and dance and the department of art and art history merged into the College of Fine and Performing Arts on July 1. The college includes:

- 600 majors
- \$5 million budget
- 85% of budget is salaries
- 71 full-time faculty members

Source: Larry Lusk, dean of the College of Fine and Performing Arts

Scott Monroe/DN

Fine, performing arts college born

By DeDra Janssen
Staff Reporter

A new college was born last week from the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

The College of Fine and Performing Arts officially became a part of UNL on July 1 under the leadership of Dean Larry Lusk with one goal in mind: to give more focus to the arts.

The new college will reportedly include 71 full-time faculty members and about 600 majors. The college will have a budget of about \$5 million, of which 85 percent is made up of salaries.

The new college, which is approximately the size of the College of Business Administration, was able to be created because it did not involve any new money, Lusk said. The college was funded by money transferred from the College of Arts and Sciences, he said.

Lusk said the college would make the arts a more important part of campus life and help extend the arts into the state.

"It was created to give more focus to the arts and bring closer coordination between all of the arts groups on campus," Lusk said.

The college includes the department of art and art history, the School

of Music, the department of theatre arts and dance and the Mary Riepma Ross Film Theater.

Affiliates with the college are the Great Plains Art Collection, the Lied Center for the Performing Arts, the Lentz Center for Asian Studies and the Sheldon Memorial Art Gallery.

In addition to closing the gaps between these groups, Lusk said he hoped the college would help get more grants for the arts and that it would bring more outside funds to the college.

Lusk also said the new college would be beneficial to minorities, and there would be a new lecture series

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