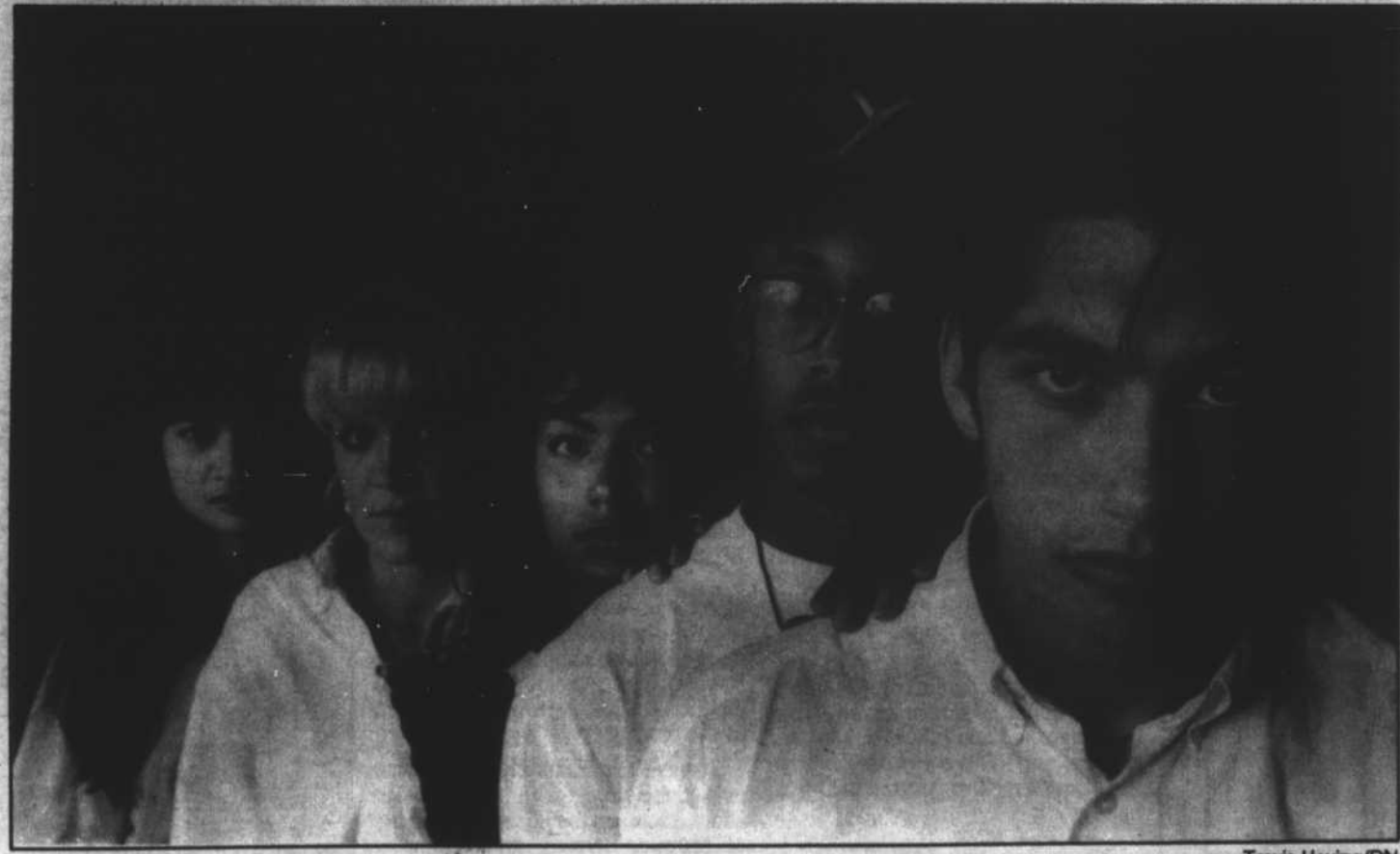




**CAMPUS**  
**Bats Invading the Capitol?**  
 UNL's Patricia Freeman says bats are migrating through Lincoln.  
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**Thursday**  
 65/38  
 Partly cloudy today.  
 Friday, dry and cool.

## I before we



Travis Heying/DN

Some officials say Generation X members talk about diversity without producing results. From right, Pedro Ramirez II, a junior pre-law major; Nasim Fariq Suhayb, a sophomore business major; Cindy Salazar Avalos, a freshman pre-med major; Trish Mooney, a sophomore journalism major; and Yew Siew Tsuey, a junior fashion merchandising major.

## Minority officials call young adults too self-centered

By Alan Phelps  
 Senior Reporter

A more appropriate name for Generation X might be Generation "I," some University of Nebraska-Lincoln minority affairs officials say.

"The '60s was for 'we.' The '90s is for 'me,'" said John Harris, special assistant to the vice chancellor for student affairs. "That's where I'm most troubled."

Most of those who know the 1960s civil rights movement only through television, Harris said, don't understand that protesters fought for society and not for themselves.

Today's generation, he said, doesn't realize how much others have sacrificed so minorities could have more rights and everyone could enjoy greater diversity.

"People had to die for people of color to be able to go to college, to eat in restaurants, to stay in hotels," Harris said. "That's a lot more than protesting or sit-ins."

Much of this generation has forgotten that willingness to strive for the greater good, Harris said.

"I think we've hit a point of complacency," he said. "I think this generation is not ready to put up the type of effort that was put up for them."

Instead of working for society, Harris said, most work only for themselves or their

own ethnic groups. And when the new generation does protest, members too often resort to violence.

"In the '60s they were taught civil disobedience through non-violence. They were taught not to hit back," Harris said. "This generation could never do that."

Many young people accept violence as a means to solve problems, Harris said, just as Malcolm X did for a time.

"He said, 'If you're going to slap me, I'm going to slap you back,'" Harris said. "A lot of people, particularly African Americans, say, 'I don't have a problem with that.'"

One of the reasons for the turnaround since the 1960s, Harris said, is the different outlook today's youth have for the future.

"This generation is a scared generation," he said. "It looks like a bleak future. People keep telling us all the time that kids might

See X on 3

## Clinton's plan to be modified professors say

By Steve Smith  
 Senior Reporter

The unveiling of President Clinton's health care reform package was the first step toward fixing the system, two UNL professors said Wednesday.

But they also agreed that the president's new proposals would not be immune to reform themselves.

Clinton, in a nationally televised speech to a joint session of Congress Wednesday, proposed a full overhaul of the nation's health care system.

The president called for reforms that guaranteed every U.S. citizen medical benefits "that can never be taken away."

Keith Mueller, a UNL political science professor who teaches classes on health care systems, said compromise may be necessary for the ultimate passage of Clinton's package. Mueller thought the president would stand by the main objectives outlined in the speech, but said he probably would be willing to compromise to attain those objectives.

"If one listens carefully to the speech, one could get from it that Clinton will get the package passed any way he can, as long as his objectives are not undermined."

"He'll most likely compromise on the plan's details to reach his objectives, but he won't change (the objectives) just to get the package passed," Mueller said.

Mueller predicted Clinton would undergo much criticism for compromising on the package, but he thought Clinton ultimately would obtain his original goals.

"Generally, I think there's momentum in the national government," Mueller said. "The president himself said he had not talked to a single Congressman that didn't think something needed to be done with health care."

Mueller said the health care debate—which is expected to last several months—will be less vicious than the recent budget debate.

"This process will not divide neatly into party camps," Mueller said. "It's much more of a philosophical and ideological issue than a partisan issue."

Robert Miewald, a UNL political science professor, said he thought Clinton was effective in balancing his "pep talk" and the outlining of the plan's specifics.

"I'd say he was fairly fired up tonight," Miewald said. "He presented his facts clearly and concisely and was very well organized."

But Clinton's address, Miewald said, probably won't draw a lot of additional support—at least in the plan's purest form, Miewald said.

"If this is a four-quarter contest, then this speech was just the kickoff," Miewald said. "We're in this for the long haul. We've got a long way to go."

Miewald said he thought Clinton would eventually get support for the plan because, he said, Congress realizes that the system needs to be reformed.

"The writing's on the wall," Miewald said. "Everyone will agree that we need (reform)."

"However, some people who initially support it may see what it will cost them and they may back off a little."

## Curriculum changes timely, official says

### Plan to create new general requirements up before committee

By Dionne Searcey  
 Senior Reporter

UNL is following an apparent trend in higher education by revamping its general education curriculum requirements.

Robert Bergstrom, chairman of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln general education planning committee, said members would vote today on a program that, in the future, would

change every student's graduation requirements.

"There have been a lot of studies done of America's higher education. A lot of them have been critical," he said. "That gets people looking at themselves."

Many colleges in Nebraska are changing their own general education curriculum, Bergstrom said.

"It's going on all over the place," he said. "UNO has done it recently, Kearney has done it, Creighton has done it. It's very widespread."

The University of Nebraska at Omaha, the University of Nebraska at Kearney, Creighton University, Chadron State College, Nebraska Wesleyan University and Iowa State University

are all working on requirement changes.

Other Big Eight schools are following the trend as well.

The University of Colorado in Boulder is making ongoing changes in its requirements. The school's College of Arts and Sciences revamped its general education curriculum in 1988 and is doing so again this year.

Kansas State University in Manhattan is developing for the first time a university-wide general education curriculum, said Peter Nicholls, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.

See CURRICULUM on 2

## Recent media treatment of athletes stimulates debate

By Tim Pearson  
 Senior Reporter

Athletes at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln should not be treated differently by the press than other students are, Nebraska football coach Tom Osborne said.

"My feeling is that if an athlete is written up in a non-sports-related story, I'd hope that they'd be treated like any other student," Osborne said.

Three recent incidents involving UNL athletes have triggered debate on whether news coverage of the incidents was fair.

Scott Baldwin, a former Nebraska football player, was arrested in the January 1992 beating of Gina Simanek of Lincoln. He was paralyzed from the chest down when he was shot during a September 1992 scuffle with Omaha police.

Last week it was revealed that former Husker football player Kenny Wilhite was involved in a car accident that killed a child.

On Sept. 10, Nebraska basketball player Eric Piatkowski was cited for allegedly drinking alcohol in public.

Nebraska football player Calvin Jones said the media and the public

often placed athletes "on a pedestal"—a position that was not always advantageous.

"The position athletes are put in, we have be mortal gods in the public's eye," Jones said.

Nebraska athletes are viewed as public figures, and the things they do are of interest to the public, UNL journalism professor John Bender said.

"They've voluntarily accepted public scrutiny to some extent," he said. "They perform in front of thousands of people every week."

"As athletes, they are going to be role models."

— 66 —  
**They didn't have to become athletes. They could have done other things.**

—Bender  
 UNL journalism professor

Bender said all three cases were newsworthy.

"Wilhite didn't intend to get involved in the accident, and I'm sure

Baldwin didn't intend to have a psychotic episode," he said. "But once those things happen, it's legitimate news."

"The Wilhite story would be newsworthy no matter what. Any time somebody's fatally injured in an accident, it's news."

But Jones said Wilhite suffered through a lot last year and didn't need more suffering with the media coverage.

"With Wilhite, it's a case where Kenny shouldn't have said anything,"

See ATHLETE on 6