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University of Nebraska-Lincoln

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←A&E
Rap Off

APU and Alpha
Phi Alpha
welcome
rappers at
Saturday's
Rapfest '93.
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**Friday
65/50**
Today, mostly cloudy
with a chance of
thunderstorms.
Saturday, mostly
cloudy with a chance
of showers.



Travis Heying/DN

Noah Walsh gets instructions on how to use his extra hand Thursday night at the Asylum Haunted House.

Center scares up funds for teens

By Matthew Waite
Staff Reporter

If the media thought at-risk teens were scary, wait until they see them now.

This month, Lighthouse, a meeting place and gathering center for at-risk 14- to 18-year-olds in the Lincoln area, is staging The Asylum — a haunted house and fundraiser, next to Spaghetti Works, 228 N. 12th St.

Lighthouse got involved in the project as a matter of thinking about the future, Pete Allman, Lighthouse director, said.

"We just need more money," Allman said. "We have about six months of operating income left. Now is the time to start planning for six months down the road."

Allman said the teens who attended the center were at risk of dropping out of school, pregnancy, drug and alcohol addiction, run-

ning away from home, or physical and sexual abuse.

The center, which is privately funded, receives donations from special events, corporate donations and other fund-raisers, he said. But those events, Allman said, just don't make enough money for Lighthouse.

"We need a big fund-raiser like this," Allman said, adding that an event like the haunted house could bring in as much as \$20,000.

"Any amount will help us," he said. Allman said he had planned an entirely different fund-raiser until a friend offered him the space and came up with the idea of a haunted house.

But Allman said he had never worked on a haunted house before and he didn't know where to start.

"Not knowing a thing about it, I said we'd do it," Allman said.

Allman obtained the space from the owner of Spaghetti Works and then went out to find volunteers to help design the inside of the haunted house.

Bryan Learning Center, an alternative high school, built the interior, and Allman had to contract out the electrical work.

"We had to pass fire codes, electrical codes and building codes," Allman said.

The center also rounded up some University of Nebraska-Lincoln organizations to help out.

Three of the four Lincoln high school drama departments and the UNL Masquers will perform inside the house.

"It's kids helping kids," Allman said. "We have 21 volunteers a night for 16 nights."

Allman then recruited the help of the

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Discovered ammunition may be linked to Harms case

By Steve Smith
Senior Reporter

Lincoln Fire Department divers pulled 20 rounds of live ammunition from Pawnee Lake Tuesday that investigators think may be linked to the Candice Harms murder case.

Lancaster County Sheriff Department Capt. Bill Coleman said Thursday that divers discovered the ammunition during an almost five-hour search of the lake, located eight miles west of Lincoln.

Tuesday's search, the third since Harms' body was found in December 1992, was conducted as a final inspection before Bjorklund's trial.

"(Bjorklund's) getting ready to go to court, so we felt one last look would be merited," Coleman said. "It turned out for the best that we did."

Divers searched the lake twice after Harms' body was found in December 1992 in a shallow grave south of Lincoln. Those searches of the lake produced a .38-caliber revolver and a .380-caliber semiautomatic handgun.

Coleman said the search team used a new magnetometer in the latest search. The magnetometer, essentially an underwater metal detector, was acquired by the fire department through funds provided by the Lincoln Police Department, the sheriff's office and the fire department, Coleman said.

The divers recovered ammunition that could have been used in the weapons found during the earlier searches, Coleman said.

However, Coleman said, sheriff's investigators are waiting for laboratory results before verifying if the discovery is related to the Harms case.

The tests will take about a week, he said. "I'm sure there is more (evidence)," Coleman said. "I'm sure we could find something."

Roger Bjorklund, 31, and Scott Barney, 24, both face first-degree murder charges in Harms' murder.

On Feb. 4, Lancaster County Attorney Gary Lacey said state prosecutors would seek the death penalty for Bjorklund. Prosecutors decided not to seek capital punishment for Barney in exchange for his testimony against Bjorklund.

Jury selection for Bjorklund's trial begins Monday in Cheyenne County. Bjorklund's trial is scheduled to start Oct. 25 in Lincoln.

UNL to study financial aid application errors

By Dionne Searcey
Senior Reporter

Students receiving a letter this week from the financial aid office shouldn't pass it off as junk mail, a UNL official said.

John Beacon, director of Scholarships and Financial Aid, said 280 students had been selected to help the University of Nebraska-Lincoln complete a U.S. Department of Education study.

The study includes a questionnaire students must complete before they

receive their second-semester financial aid.

UNL is one of 100 schools selected last spring to participate in the Education Department's Institutional Quality Assurance program, Beacon said.

The program, which will last several years, is a self-study, he said.

"It gives the financial aid office an opportunity to assess its services to students, its management and to focus on any areas that need some work," he said. During the first year of the study, Beacon said, UNL officials will examine student aid applications and

determine where the greatest number of errors occur.

Students who apply for aid often make mistakes on the lengthy application that asks for such information as annual income or number of household members, he said.

Mistakes include incorrectly reporting tax information and writing names in the wrong spaces, Beacon said.

"There's an amazing number of people who don't write their right social security number," he said.

More than half of UNL students

who apply for aid make mistakes, Beacon said.

Small mistakes in answering such questions can make a world of difference in determining amounts of aid students receive, Beacon said.

The study will help eliminate questionnaire mistakes by asking students to rehash some of the answers they gave on their financial aid verification form.

"This is not a difficult questionnaire," Beacon said. "It's pretty straight-forward."

This semester UNL students were

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NU Regents seek solution to engineering college debate

By Mark Harms
Staff Reporter

The NU Board of Regents is expected to approve at Friday's meeting a list of consultants to look into the proposal for a separate engineering college at UNO, officials said.

If approved, the four independent consultants would try to determine Nebraska's need for engineering education and decide if those needs are being met by the current system, ac-

cording to a press release from the University of Nebraska president's office.

NU REGENTS
Currently, the engineering college is administered through the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. UNO and Omaha businesses want a separate college on the Omaha campus.

The consultants would make recommendations on how the university could improve engineering education in the state, including whether or not an independent college is needed at the University of Nebraska at Omaha.

J.B. Milliken, corporation secretary for the board, said he did not know when the consultants would begin work, but "we hope to have this wrapped up by the end of the year."

Milliken said hiring the consultants would cost between \$15,000 and \$20,000. The University of Nebraska

Foundation would pay the bill, he said.

"We haven't negotiated the fine points of this yet," Milliken said.

The recommended consultants are: James Halligan, president of New Mexico State University; Donald Langenberg, chancellor of the University of Maryland system; Charles James, dean of the College of Engineering and Applied Science at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee; and John Christian, vice president of Stone and Webster Engineering Corporation.

Also at Friday's meeting, regents will consider the proposal to remove a parking lot north of the Nebraska Union and replace it with North Plaza Park, a landscaped area with shrubs, trees, walkways and lights.

The project would cost about \$198,000 and the money would come from general operating and private funds, according to Chancellor Graham Spanier's report to the board.

UNL Student Regent Keith Benes

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