



Orange crush

Orange bowl president Bob Epling expresses concern about Nebraska's and the Orange Bowl's position in the national championship race.

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Friday

55/35

Rain and occasional thunderstorms today. Chance of rain throughout weekend. Highs around 50.

Prosecution, defense rest in Bjorklund trial

By Dionne Searcey
Senior Reporter

Defense attorneys called no witnesses as they joined prosecutors in resting their cases Thursday in the first-degree murder trial of Roger Bjorklund.

Arguments ended on the 13th day of Bjorklund's trial in the slaying of UNL student Candice Harms.

"It is my position that the state has not produced sufficient evidence to establish Mr. Bjorklund's guilt beyond a reasonable doubt," Lancaster

County Chief Public Defender Scott Helvie told reporters after the hearing.



Helvie said Bjorklund followed defense attorneys' advice to not take the stand. Prosecutors called 59 witnesses to testify during the trial. During the 13 days of hearings, prosecutors introduced 641 exhibits of evidence.

Lancaster County Attorney Gary Lacey said he was comfortable with the prosecution's presentation to the jury.

"I think we presented all the evidence we had in a very efficient and forthright manner," he said.

Both sides rested their cases just before 4 p.m.

Before resting his case, Lacey offered all exhibits previously introduced to the court.

He added to those exhibits a purse, a jar of fibrous material, a sack of

jeans and two belts, a round of .223 ammunition, a box of debris from an area near 84th Street and Havelock Avenue and black carpet from a Nissan Pulsar.

Attorneys from both sides will meet Friday in closed session to create a list of final instructions for the jury.

Lancaster County District Judge Donald Endacott reminded the jury of their duties before dismissing them for the weekend.

"It has been a long road that we've

all traveled together," he said, "and it's so important — I admonish you — please, please, do not discuss this case."

Attorneys will present closing arguments 8:30 a.m. Monday to the jury.

A plea date has not yet been scheduled for Scott Barney, who also is charged in the slaying of Harms. Barney has pleaded guilty in exchange for a promise that prosecutors not seek the death penalty in his case.

Sorensen: confessions not coerced

Bjorklund Trial Update

- ▶ Defense attorneys rested their case Thursday without calling any witnesses. The prosecution also ended its arguments.
- ▶ Lincoln police Detective Sgt. Greg Sorensen testified that Bjorklund's confessions were not coerced or illegally taped.
- ▶ Attorneys from both sides will meet in closed session Friday to create a list of final instructions for the jury.
- ▶ Attorneys will present closing arguments to the jury Monday at 8:30 a.m.

By Dionne Searcey
Senior Reporter

A police sergeant testified, in contrast to allegations from defense attorneys, that he did not coerce a confession from Roger Bjorklund during two conversations they shared.

Detective Sgt. Greg Sorensen testified during the first-degree murder trial of Roger Bjorklund about two conversations he had with Bjorklund on May 25 and June 5.

The questioning stems from the Sept. 22, 1992, slaying of UNL student Candice Harms. Bjorklund and Scott Barney are charged in the death.

Sorensen said Bjorklund initiated both conversations and was promised nothing in exchange for a confession.

Jurors listened to tapes Thursday from the May 25 and June 5 conversations between Sorensen and Bjorklund.

On June 5, Bjorklund said Barney fantasized of kidnapping and raping a stranger. Sorensen asked Bjorklund if killing Harms was ever considered as part of Barney's fantasy.

"Never. I didn't know that was going to happen until boom boom, he fired the f—ing gun," Bjorklund said. "I mean, he's lucky that when we got back to the car that I didn't f—ing shoot him."

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William Lauer/DN

Devore Silvey fires a salvo during ceremonies honoring armed services members at the Veterans Administration Medical Center on Thursday.

'Salvation' ROTC cadets celebrate Veterans Day

By Paula Lavigne
Staff Reporter

About 75 ROTC cadets gathered in front of the Military and Naval Science building in perfect formation to honor the veterans of World War II on Thursday.

Air Force, Army and Navy Reserve Officer Training Corp cadets took part in a special Veterans Day retreat ceremony Thursday.

The ceremony began with a speech by Air Force 2nd Lt. Paul

Alfonso, Jr. He said although the retreat ceremony was in honor of World War II veterans, they were gathered to remember veterans from all wars.

Air Force Capt. Kevin Driscoll said the ceremony was part of a nationwide effort to acknowledge Veterans' Day.

"It gives you time to think of the sacrifices made and the lives and dreams that were changed or snuffed out," Driscoll said. "The impact is mind boggling."

About four World War II veterans joined the group of ROTC ca-

dets and active officers as honorary guests.

Retired World War II Army Air Corp Officer Merle Summers said he thought the ceremony was inspiring.

"I think the world's going to fall apart," he said, "then I see all these young guys out here and I see salvation."

Summers' brother, Air Force Lt. Col. Gale Summers, said America did a fairly good job celebrating Veterans Day. He said the reverence displayed at UNL's ceremony indicated the country's support of U.S. veterans.

Racers drive for contacts, scholarships

By Amie Haggart
Staff Reporter

With a full gas tank, fastened seat belts and a desire to win, two University of Nebraska-Lincoln students soon will be racing across the nation.

But their race cars aren't streamlined for speeds of more than 200 mph. Rather, they're practical, fuel-efficient Geo Metros.

Lonnie Behrends and Christin Curry will be one of 20 college teams putting across the nation in the Geo Metro EconoRun contest.

EconoRun, which is sponsored by the Sports Car Club of America, is a seven-day, coast-to-coast road rally to promote automotive fuel economy and to support higher education, said Behrends, a junior business management major.

The contest begins Monday in New York and ends Nov. 21 in Los Angeles.

"It's going to be fun to see the nation, driving from New York to L.A.," Behrends said.

The students are competing for \$104,000 in scholarships that will be awarded to their college's general scholarship funds.

Curry, a senior marketing and economics major, said the contest would draw national attention.

"I think we will get people's attention because there are 20 universities involved," she said. "This contest is going to give a lot of recognition."

Behrends, who also is vice president of UNL's Marketing Club, said the SCCA would measure the fuel efficiency of each car daily at specified stopping points.

"Our fuel consumption is going to be very closely monitored," he said.

Each morning after the fuel consumption has been measured, awards of \$4,000, \$2,000 and \$1,000 will be presented to the schools of the first, second and third place teams, respec-

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General education requirements receive ASUN support

By Matthew Waite
Staff Reporter

ASUN's support of general education requirements Wednesday was the first official support for implementing the program at UNL, officials said.

But student government support doesn't assure the proposal's success.

Elizabeth Grobsmith, assistant vice chancellor for academic affairs, said the individual colleges at UNL must approve the proposal before the general education requirements could be implemented.

Grobsmith, who is overseeing the proposal's formation and acceptance by the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's separate colleges,

said the proposal currently was being reviewed by the nine undergraduate colleges.

College of Arts and Sciences Dean Stephen Hilliard said the proposal was being considered by a curriculum committee in the college. He said the committee was reviewing the college's questions and concerns about the requirements and its ability to deliver the classes.

James O'Hanlon, dean of the Teacher's College, said the proposal had been approved by its curriculum committee. College faculty will vote on a bill favoring the proposal on Nov. 29, he said.

O'Hanlon said the Teacher's College's general education requirements would go beyond what was being proposed in some areas.

Grobsmith said the general education requirements would consist of three areas of study: information retrieval, integrative studies and essential studies.

The information retrieval course would teach students to use UNL's library system. Grobsmith said the course might take only half of a semester.

Integrative studies would include requirements in courses such as critical thinking, writing, oral expression, analysis of controversy and inquiry into intellectual bias.

Essential studies would include courses in communications, math, history, humanities, science and technology. These courses also would deal with issues of race, ethnicity and gender.

All of the requirements can be met in 30 hours, Grobsmith said. General education requirements would not affect UNL's graduate programs.

ASUN senators' support was based on the condition that funding for the proposal would be identified in advance. Grobsmith said funding already was earmarked for any expenses incurred in the program.

"Resources have indeed been set aside," she said. "The Senior Vice Chancellor (Joan Leitzel) last year during the budget re-allocation had set aside \$300,000 to assist us with being able to fund various aspects of the program."

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