

Daily Nebraskan

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University of Nebraska-Lincoln

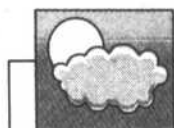
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NEWS DIGEST



NAFTA Vote

The House will vote Wednesday night on the North American Free Trade Agreement
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Wednesday

50/25

Today, partly sunny.
Thursday, partly cloudy with highs in the 50s.

NU tour, programs impress new president

By Matthew Waite
Staff Reporter

During his four-day tour of the University of Nebraska, newly appointed NU President Dennis Smith caught a glimpse of the campuses he will oversee.

He also caught a cold. "I caught kind of a Nebraska bug," Smith said Tuesday before touring Varner Hall on the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's East Campus.

Smith attended the Nebraska football game against Iowa State on Saturday and toured the four University of Nebraska campuses Sunday through Tuesday.

Smith said the campus tours went well and he was impressed with what he saw.

"I've been impressed with all four campuses,"

he said.

Smith said he also was impressed with Big Red football spirit.

"I haven't seen that much red in one place ever," Smith said.

He said he and his wife were both football and basketball fans and they looked forward to seeing the Nebraska programs.

Smith said his first action as president would be to sit down and get to know the chancellors of each NU campus and find out their plans.

University of Nebraska-Lincoln Chancellor Graham Spanier said the meetings he had with Smith were very productive.

"Our time was limited, but I think we covered a lot of ground in the time available," Spanier said.

"He's a quick learner," Spanier said. "I was

impressed with his ability to grasp the issues as they came up very quickly."

Spanier said he thought Smith would bring experience and insight to the NU system.

Smith also said he wanted to talk to faculty, staff and students about their plans and expectations.

Smith said he was taking home some budget information and would take a long look at the figures.

"I really need to do some studying," Smith said.

NU Corporation Secretary J.B. Milliken said he was impressed with Smith's energy.

"It was kind of a whirlwind tour of the campuses," Milliken said. "I am quite impressed with his enthusiasm and his questions and I look forward to working with him as everybody

does."

Milliken said Smith was familiarizing himself with the university.

"He's still very much engaged in the learning process," Milliken said. "He took home a copy of our operational budget for this year."

"Over the next couple of months, he has got a lot of homework," Milliken said.

Milliken said Smith commented on how it was nice to be going from an Anteater, the University of California-Irvine mascot, to a Cornhusker.

"I think he's pretty excited about the program at UNL," Milliken said.

Milliken said Smith would return to Nebraska before he started his job on March 1, 1994. He said the trips would be to learn more about the NU system.

Bjorklund jury takes some time on verdict

By Jeff Zeleny
Senior Editor
and Dionne Searcey
Senior Reporter

Family and friends of Candice Harms played cards and paced the halls of the County-City Building Tuesday as they waited for a jury to decide the fate of the man accused in Harms' slaying.

The jury, which is composed of eight women and four men, entered its 12th hour of deliberation when it adjourned at 5 p.m. Tuesday. The jury will reconvene at 8 a.m. Wednesday.

Jurors are deliberating the evidence and witness testimony in the first-degree murder trial of Roger Bjorklund. Bjorklund is charged in the 1992 slaying of Harms.

Lancaster County Attorney Gary Lacey said Monday he hoped for a quick deliberation. Prosecutors in any court case, Lacey said, get nervous after the jury deliberates for more than 20 hours.

Members of 11 local and Omaha media joined a handful of trial-watchers who waited in vain for nine hours in hopes of hearing a verdict from the

See DELIBERATIONS on 6

Bjorklund trial costs mount daily for county

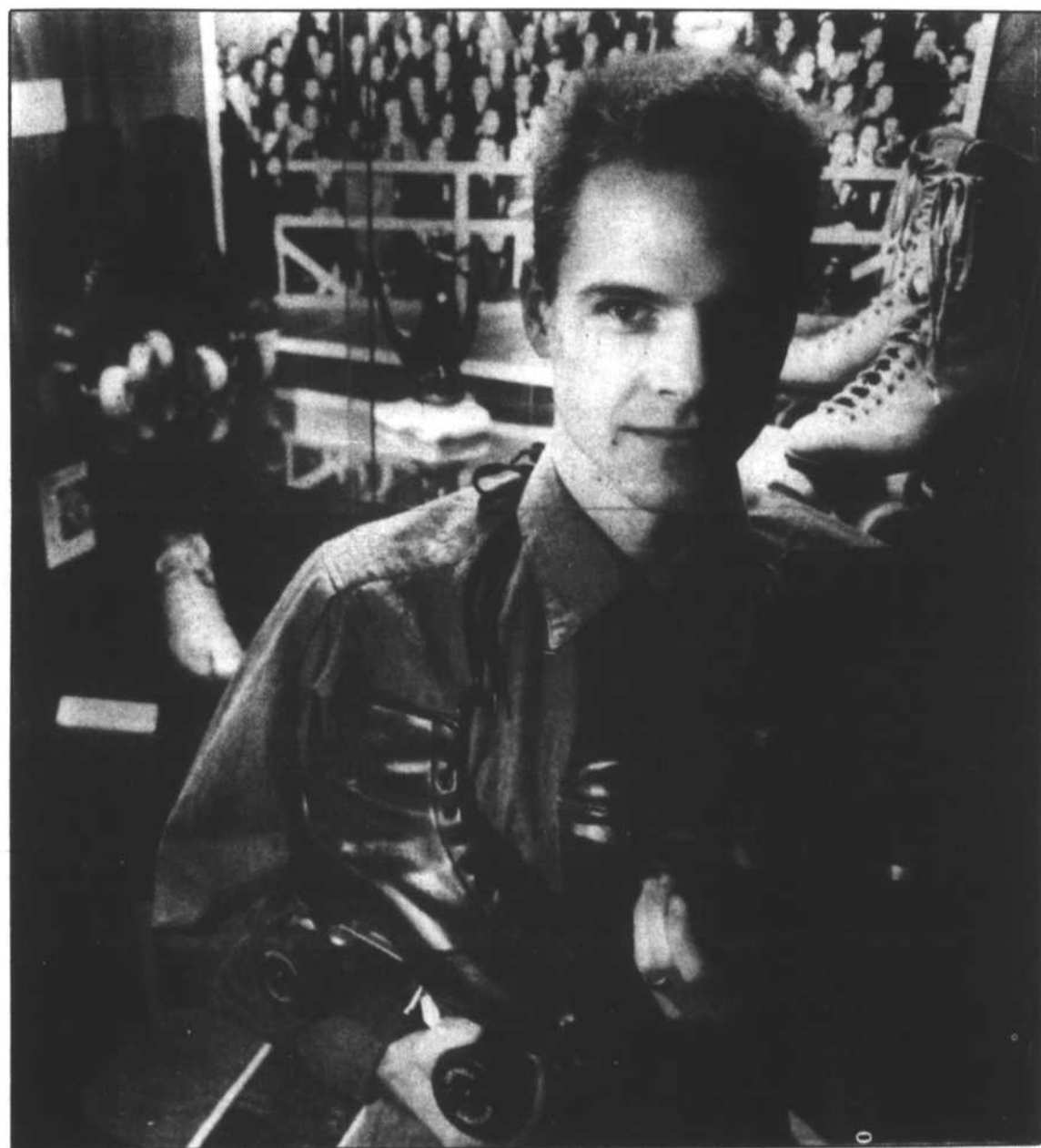
By Steve Smith
Senior Reporter

The Lancaster County Sheriff's Office has spent almost \$1,000 a day for security during the Roger Bjorklund murder trial, Sheriff Tom Casady said Tuesday.

Casady said his office's expenses for the security totaled about \$20,000 since jury selection began Oct. 18 in Sidney.

The 12 jurors who were selected from the Cheyenne County in October continued their deliberation of Bjorklund's fate Tuesday. Bjorklund is charged in the Sept. 22, 1992 abduction, rape and murder of University of Nebraska-Lincoln student Candice Harms.

See EXPENSES on 6



Scott Wilhite, director of the National Museum of Roller Skating, stands in front of a display inside the museum at 48th and South streets.

Rinky-dink Museum keeps roller-skating history alive

By Rebecca Oltmans
Staff Reporter

Roller-skating history and memories in Lincoln are stronger—and stranger—than most people know.

The National Museum of Roller Skating, 48th and South streets, is dedicated to preserving skating memories beyond grade school skating parties and roller blading across campus.

And it's the only such museum in the world.

Scott Wilhite, director and curator of the museum, said the museum never failed to please seekers of the unusual.

Some aspects of roller-skating history are a little weird, he said.

“You won't believe the number of little old couples who are lifelong skaters that come here.”

— Wilhite
curator, National Roller Skating Museum

Skates have been designed in many forms. Sneakers, thongs, walking shoes and boots all have been converted to skates and are included in the museum's displays. Someone even came up with a

motorized “automobile skate.” Wilhite said automobile skates were hooked to a motor that was strapped on the skater's back and fed by a hand-held gas pump.

“That never really caught on,” Wilhite said. “No brakes.”

“Animal skating was big for a while,” Wilhite said. The museum has skates used by bears, horses, elephants and cockatiels, as well as pictures of skating penguins.

Roller skates were used in operas and movies. During the 1940s and 50s one of the biggest attractions was a touring group called the Skating Vanities, Wilhite said. The group's audience included Queen Elizabeth and the Pope.

See SKATE on 6

Rotary helps international scholars help their homes

By Shane Tucker
Staff Reporter

Rotary International and the University of Nebraska-Lincoln are helping the fight against world hunger by helping to educate scholars from Third World countries.

Deepak Sahai, 26, is working toward a Ph.D. at UNL, studying starch granule structures in the food sciences and technology department.

Sahai is attending the university on a Rotary International Freedom From Hunger scholarship. The scholarship, Sahai said, is intended to allow students from underdeveloped countries to study agriculture.

UNL currently is home to seven rotary scholars. Three of the scholars are from India, and the others are from the Philippines, Germany, Turkey and Brazil.

Sahai plans to graduate in May and said he would take what he had learned at UNL back to his native country of India. The Freedom from Hunger scholarship requires students to return to their homelands.

Sahai receives approximately \$4,000 per semester for living expenses. Tuition is billed directly to Rotary.

UNL was one of four schools Sahai wanted to attend. He said he chose UNL because he thought its agriculture program was excellent.

Gopalakrishnan Krishnan, 24, is a native of India working toward a master's degree in agronomy.

Specializing in weed science, Krishnan also is a Freedom From Hunger scholar.

Krishnan is nine months into his two-year scholarship. Upon graduation, he plans to return to India and possibly pursue a Ph.D.

“I'm thinking of joining industries back home or going to school again,” Krishnan said.

Krishnan was one of two or three students from India chosen for scholarships the year he applied. Like Sahai, Krishnan said he also chose UNL for its agriculture department.

“I felt this was a good ag school,” Krishnan said. “It was my first choice, and I got it.”

Rotary International, however, is phasing out the Freedom From Hunger scholarship. Students currently at UNL working on their programs will be allowed to finish, but new scholarships are not being awarded, said Merle Jansen, chairman of the District Scholarship Committee.

In place of the Freedom from

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