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Nelson: Personal acts impact environment

By Matthew Waite
Senior Reporter

The focus of environmental activism has shifted from the individual to the collective, Gov. Ben Nelson said Monday outside the Nebraska Union.

Nelson addressed Nebraska environmental issues at the Earth Day Fair at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. He said it still was important, while remembering the many people who have made a positive impact on the environment, that the focus remained on the individual.

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"We must remind ourselves how important individual responsibility is," Nelson said. "The truth of the matter is when you add up all the personal acts ... they have a giant impact."

Nelson told the audience of more than 200 that there was often conflict between environmental issues and economic development. He said, however, recycling and buying recycled products created jobs.

"There doesn't have to be a conflict between

economic development and ... the environment," he said. "We've got to keep a balance in mind."

Critics who say environmental concerns damage job growth are wrong, Nelson said. "I say to (the critics), you just haven't thought that far down the road," he said.

Nelson said many jobs that future UNL students would seek would be environmentally focused.

Those with conflicting views concerning environmental issues need to come together, the Governor said.

"When every one comes to the table ready to work for the environment, everybody benefits," he said. "Every piece of the puzzle is important."

Nelson said if past generations were more like present ones, things would have been different.

"If my generation had your generation's commitment and understanding ... the problems we deal with today would be much smaller," he said.

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UNL gets grant to resume project in Eastern Europe

By Brian Sharp
Staff Reporter

It's a story of political and economic crisis.

Two countries, isolated from the rest of the world and existing in ruin — until recently.

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln has been working in Albania and Macedonia for the past two years. UNL officials are working with government, business and faculty leaders in the depressed countries, setting up the foundation for a market economy.

Rep. Doug Bereuter announced Friday that UNL would receive almost \$935,000 to continue the project for another year.

Bereuter is part of a task force appointed to address the issue of democracy and market economy in Eastern Europe. The money comes from the U.S. Agency for International Development (U.S. A.I.D.).

Sang Lee, chairman of the UNL management department, is director of the U.S. A.I.D. project.

The yearly budget for UNL's involvement is around \$1.3 million, Lee said.

A recently published report by Lee and Fred Luthans, a UNL management professor, stated that \$10 billion was needed to rebuild the infrastructure of Albania, but the country had received only \$20 million in foreign aid.

In 1991-'92, industrial output in Albania fell by more than 60 percent, the report found. And in March 1992, inflation stood at 40 percent per month.

Lee said that Macedonia's plight was just as serious but in a different light.

Macedonia already operates on a market system, Lee said, but this system is causing the country to go bankrupt. When Macedonia separated from Yugoslavia, later supporting U.N. sanctions against the Serbs, the country lost 50 percent of its market.

Transportation costs to trade through Bulgaria are eating up all the nation's profits, Lee

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It's really a matter of changing perspective as well as technology.

—Luthans
UNL management professor

said. UNL is working to get Macedonia to work through Albania.

"The problem is that those two people have such historical mistrust," Lee said. "They are still having trouble working together."

Luthans said UNL was selected over other universities across the country because of its experience and expertise in marketing and economics.

"It's mostly a training and education mission," Luthans said. "It's really a matter of changing perspective as well as technology."

Luthans said the idea of a market system was completely foreign to these Eastern European countries.

Conditions in Albania have been deteriorating for the past 40 years, according to the report. But last year the nation, reportedly the poorest in Europe, recorded an 8 percent economic growth rate.

"The people there (in Albania) are loving people and very grateful people, but they've been under such oppressive conditions," Luthans said. "It's something that we just can't even comprehend in this country."

"They were able to turn things around because they wanted to turn things around, and they're small enough that they can make an impact in a relatively short amount of time."

Lee and Luthans, along with other UNL officials, will leave at the end of spring semester, making their fourth trip to Albania and second to Macedonia. The group will spend two weeks in the area, focusing on developing graduate business management programs in both countries, Lee said.

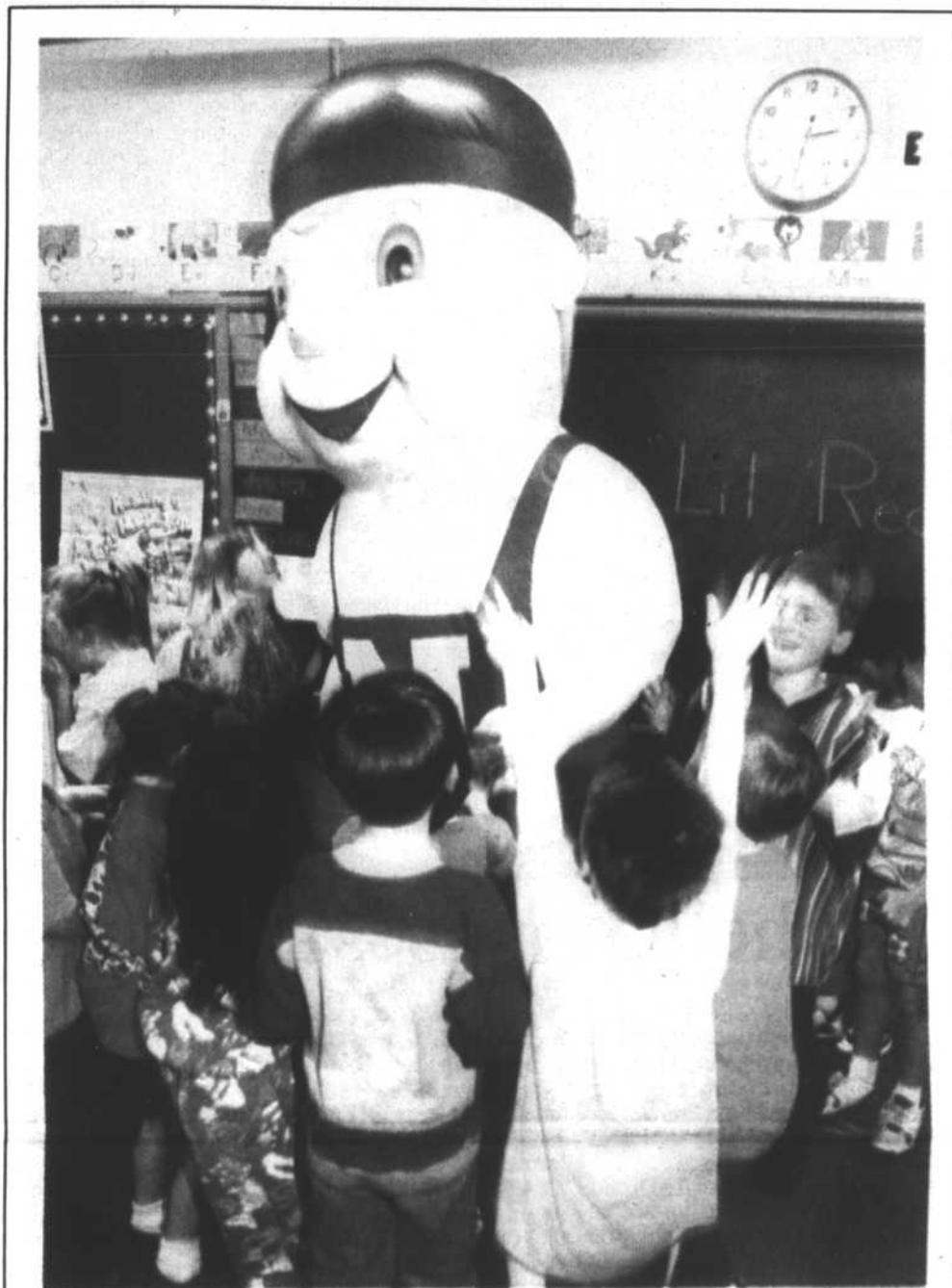
the State University of New York in Buffalo.

Howe said there were only about 100 eligible candidates for the job nationwide, and the firm had access to those candidates.

Howe said the university could recruit easily for other university positions, such as faculty and administrative positions that had a large pool of eligible candidates.

"If you're looking for an assistant professor of English, how many are there in Nebraska?" he said.

That figure would be much greater than the number of directors for performing arts in the state, he said.



Mascot mob

Second-graders at Rousseau Elementary School jump around mascot Lil Red Friday. Lil Red was at the school with UNL cheerleaders to honor Leo Ladely for being the winner of the Name the New Mascot contest.

Gerik Parmele/DN

New hours at Health Center

By Kara G. Morrison
Senior Reporter

The Health Center's overnight closing will make emergency medical services more costly but daily services more convenient, two student leaders said Monday.

"I think it's just a good trade-off," ASUN President Andrew Loudon said. "The extended hours from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. will be a better trade-off than having (the Health Center) open all night."

Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs James Griesen announced last Wednesday that, beginning May 9, the University Health Center would be closed from 10 p.m. to 7 a.m. on weekdays and from 1 p.m. to 9 a.m. on weekends and holidays.

Griesen said an orderly would still staff phones and line up emergency transportation to hospitals for students needing overnight medical care.

The UHC governing board voted unanimously in March to approve the hours.

Dave Hengen, one of three student members of the board, said he was in favor of the new schedule because too few students used the

services to make overnight hours economically feasible.

"The cost per student coming in at night was just phenomenal," Hengen said. "Also, a lot of times students would abuse the Health Center at night. Many of the cases could have waited until morning."

The change has left some students with concerns, however.

Griesen said last week he had been "a strong holdout" on closing the center at night because acutely intoxicated students had used the center as a detox facility.

Hengen, Loudon and Kunle Ojikutu, director of the Health Center, said they had heard similar concerns from students.

"I'm a little disappointed that the center won't be there (for the acutely intoxicated)," Loudon said. "I personally know a number of students who have needed that service."

Ojikutu said the number of students who used the center as a detox facility was "a very small number," but he said the Health Center encouraged students to take those acutely intoxicated to a hospital or to the detox facility,

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Firm will be hired to select new Lied Center director

By Angie Brunkow
Senior Reporter

A consultant firm will be hired to find a new director for the Lied Center for Performing Arts, associate to the chancellor Herb Howe said Monday.

The firm, Management Consultant for the Arts, is based in Connecticut and was used about five years ago to recruit Robert Chumbley, who resigned as Lied Center director earlier this month.

Chumbley, the executive and artistic director at the Lied Center since 1989, has accepted the executive position of the Fine Arts Center at

Candidates are rare, Howe said, because they need a specialized combination of business sense, artistic sense and interpersonal skills.

In addition, many directors are employed at prestigious institutions that can pay a higher salary than at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Howe said.

"I doubt we'll get the director of the Kennedy Center to come to Lincoln," Howe said.

Howe said firm representatives would come to Lincoln next week to visit with Chancellor Graham Spanier. University officials haven't given the firm any guidelines for the type of director they're looking for, he said.

The firm probably will create a list of six to eight candidates for the university to consider, Howe said. A university screening committee will reduce that number to three to come to the university for interviews, he said.

A new director should be picked and in place by early next fall, he said.

Howe said he didn't know how much hiring the consultant firm would cost because no contracts between the university and the firm had been made yet.

Payment for the firm probably will come from private donations, he said, but university officials "haven't sorted that through yet."