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INSIDE WEEKEND

WEEKEND PREVIEW

- Crash Test Dummies at State Fair, Page 8
- SPORTS
- NU readies for Sunday Kickoff Classic Page 10

PAGE 2: Senate passes \$30 billion crime bill.

AUGUST 26 - 28, 1994

Director set to move, learn about Nebraska

Powers assumes ed commission post on Oct. 17

By Matthew Waite
Senior Reporter

David Powers is ready to get out of the big city.

He got a sneak peak of Lincoln when he was interviewed a few weeks ago to be the new executive director of Nebraska's Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education.

"It (Lincoln) has everything I want," he said Thursday in a phone interview from Minneapolis.

Powers said he thought Lincoln, with its large university and population of only 200,000, was the ideal place to live.

He said the smaller population was an improvement on the 2.2 million population of the twin cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul, Minn.

Powers has been the executive director of the Minnesota Higher Education Coordinating Board since 1989. Before that, he served as senior vice chancellor of the West Virginia Board of Regents. He has a doctorate in political science from the University of Pittsburgh.

He was selected Wednesday as the new executive director of Nebraska's coordinating commission.

Powers said he hoped to find a house before he started work on Oct. 17, but he said he would be at work whether he had one or not.

His wife will not move to Lincoln until next summer, because she will continue her job as head of a consortium of colleges in St. Cloud, Minn., he said.

Powers said he thought he was coming into a good situation in his new job.

"Nebraska has a lot going for it," he said. "A lot of states don't have a solid statutory policy in place."

Strong statutes give the commission

a clear view of its responsibilities, Powers said.

Another thing stacking the deck in his favor, he said, is his existing relationships with Nebraskan educational and legislative leaders.

"I know their values," he said. "I think the people of Nebraska believe in education, and they want to support it." Nebraskans, he said, also want education to be efficient.

One of his top priorities, Powers said, is to spend a great deal of time learning. To do that, he said he would meet with legislative and educational leaders.

"The first thing I want to do is learn more about Nebraska and the people of

Nebraska," he said.

Powers said a 1992 master plan for higher education, written by the commission, was a solid plan to tackle Nebraska's higher education needs.

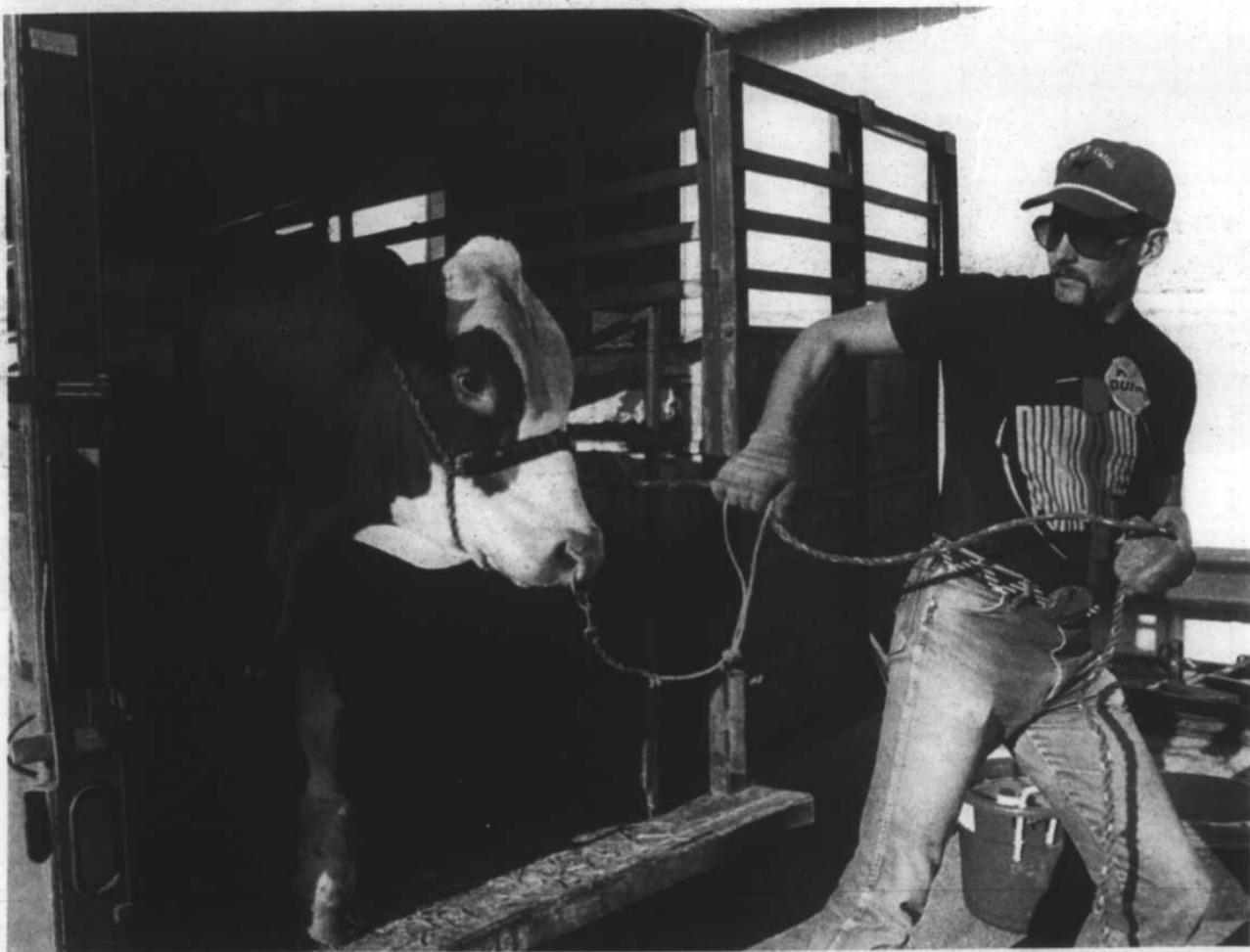
He said he would gather more information on needs for education and the guidelines legislators wanted education to follow.

"My first job is to realize I am a catalyst and a facilitator between all of the leaders," Powers said.

Legislators need to make their demands known, and the educational systems have every reason to ask for good support, Powers said.

"The public is the winner," he said. "We have to work together."

MOOVING IN



Jon Waller/DN

Tim Uden of the J Bar Cattle Co. in Juniata leads one of his Simmental bulls off his trailer in preparation for the bull showing on Sunday. The Nebraska State Fair begins today. See story on Page 8.

Former coach files claim against UNL

By Derek Samson
Senior Reporter

Former Creighton baseball coach Jim Hendry filed a claim Wednesday afternoon against UNL for unproven allegations it made to the NCAA.

Hendry said his life was interrupted and damaged for more than a year because of the allegations.

"I thought this could have been handled between my attorney and the University of Nebraska," Hendry said from Batavia, N.Y. "Unfortunately, they chose not to do it that way."

The claim was filed Wednesday with the State Claims Board, seeking damages. The three-mem-

See HENDRY on 3

Football bet may require Loudon to chew on coal

By Angie Schendt
Staff Reporter

Stockings are nowhere to be found, and UNL student body president Andrew Loudon has been a good boy.

But he may have to eat a piece of coal anyway.

In a bet with West Virginia's student body president, Brian Bigelow, about Sunday's Kick-off Classic, Loudon will have to eat a piece of West Virginia coal if the Cornhuskers lose to the Mountaineers.

If the Mountaineers lose the teams' first football game, Bigelow will have to eat some Nebraska corn.

"I called Andrew, and the first thing he said to me was, 'Is coal digestible?'" Bigelow said.

Loudon actually would eat a piece of black licorice candy that looks like a piece of coal. Loudon is bringing Nebraska corn with him on his trip to New Jersey.

"I am so confident that we will win this game that I had no trouble making this bet," Loudon said.

Bigelow and Loudon agreed the Mountaineers and Cornhuskers weren't rivals. But the two decided to make the bet, which is similar to ones made between governors and senators before big bowl games.

Loudon said he thought Nebraska would win the football game by 30 points.

Bigelow disagreed.

"I think it is going to be a real low-scoring game," he said. "Both defenses are real tough and will outplay the offenses. It will be 17-14, West Virginia."

The bet will be settled after the game in the parking lot of Giants Stadium in East Rutherford, N.J.

Civil rights group may enter UPC battle

By Matthew Waite
Senior Reporter

The Nebraska Civil Liberties Union will get involved in a dispute between two student groups if it is not handled adequately on campus, an NCLU official said.

Andrea Collins, assistant director of the civil liberties group, said the organization was worried about possible free speech violations in the battle between the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's student government and its programming council.

A bylaw change passed at the end of last year's spring semester put the selection of the University Program Council's executive board and event directors under the control of the ASUN president and speaker of the senate and UPC's outgoing president.

UPC argued against the change last semester at a meeting of the Association of Students of the University of Nebraska and since has rejected the

bylaw change, calling it "constitution tampering."

After UPC rejected the bylaw change, ASUN filed a petition in UNL's student court asking that UPC be forced to comply. UPC has filed a counterclaim asking the bylaw be ruled inapplicable.

Before the student court action, members of UPC contacted the offices of the NCLU. Collins said a panel of lawyers reviewed the petition and accepted it. She said the lawyers brought up the issue of free speech.

Collins said the possible violations stemmed from ASUN trying to control programming through appointments.

NCLU will follow the student court proceedings, Collins said, and if a compromise acceptable to UPC is worked out, NCLU's involvement will end.

She said the NCLU might advise UPC to take the issue outside campus if it thought the compro-

See NCLU on 7

VIEWPOINTS

Andrea Collins, assistant director, Nebraska Civil Liberties Union.

■ "If things don't get worked out in the university that's when we would get more formally involved."

■ NCLU will follow the student court proceedings. If involved, it would pay attorney's and court fees. The case could move to federal court.

Andrew Loudon, president, Association of Students of the University of Nebraska

■ "I think it is important that UPC remains autonomous. It is an issue of accountability, not free speech."

■ UPC isn't held accountable to students because its officers aren't elected by the students body, like ASUN's representatives.