

Daily Nebraskan

COVERING THE UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA SINCE 1901

VOL. 94 NO. 83

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January 17, 1995

Quake devastates Japanese city

By Eric Talmadge
The Associated Press

OSAKA, Japan — A powerful predawn earthquake slammed western Japan on Tuesday, killing at least 439 people, injuring more than 1,300 and trapping hundreds more in the rubble of collapsed buildings.

The earthquake, which struck at 2:46 p.m. Lincoln time Monday, registered a preliminary magnitude of 7.2. It was believed to be the most violent to have struck a Japanese urban area in at least 20 years.

The quake devastated the city of Kobe, a major port of 1.4 million

people 280 miles west of Tokyo — where the quake was barely felt.

The national police reported 583 people were missing. Two thousand buildings were damaged or destroyed, police said.

The quake knocked trains off their tracks, collapsed elevated highways, knocked down buildings and sparked hundreds of fires.

"I was terrified," said an old woman, holding her granddaughter, shown on Japanese television. "All I could do was sit in terror."

Trains were derailed by the force of the quake. Power was knocked out in some areas and underground pipes

burst, sending water gurgling over the ground.

People huddled in the streets of Kobe wrapped in bedding, some bleeding from cuts and scrapes. Others wandered the streets, staring at the collapsed buildings.

The shaking lasted about 20 seconds. The jolt was strong enough to twist doorframes, making it difficult to escape from buildings.

More than four hours after the quake, several fires burned out of control in Kobe, darkening the skies over the city with a thick cloud of smoke.

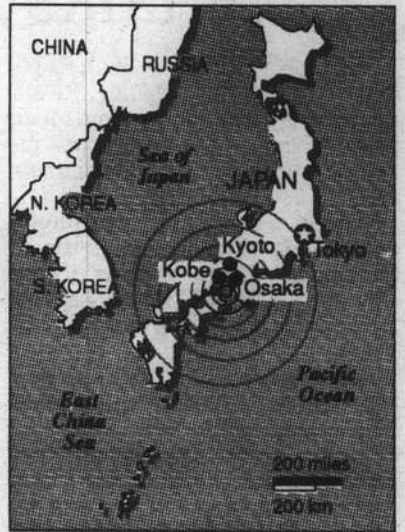
The quake was also felt strongly

in Osaka, Japan's second-largest city, but the most widespread damage was in and around Kobe.

The western city of Ashiya, a residential area between Kobe and Osaka, was said to have been devastated. Japanese television said up to 200 people were believed buried in rubble there. Deaths also were reported on Awaji Island, closest to the epicenter.

The quake, was centered 12 1/2 miles under Awaji in the Inland Sea, the Central Meteorological Agency said. Part of the quake's destructive

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Test results allow rooms to reopen in Avery Hall

By Matthew Waite
Senior Reporter

Chemical engineering students in Avery Hall can breathe easier now that asbestos test results have allowed administrators to reopen all but four rooms.

The building was flooded Wednesday when a valve in the attic of the building was left open and water flowed back into drained chilled water pipes.

The flood damaged asbestos ceilings and closed sections of the building for several days.

Rich Hoback, a university maintenance manager, said two laboratories would be closed for two days to three weeks so the asbestos in the ceilings could be removed. He said two other rooms needed repair and would be reopened soon because construction would be done after hours.

Crews cleaned the second and third floors of the 1920s building, and construction crews replaced damaged ceiling tiles in 12 rooms, Hoback said.

Damage estimates are still a week away as equipment clean up and construction continue, Hoback said. It was hard to estimate the damage, he said, because ceilings had not dried and equipment had been sealed in contaminated rooms.

A spectrometer, a tool used for analyzing chemical compound structures, may have been damaged, Hoback said. It would cost \$60,000 to replace.

Hoback said the spectrometer would be tested today.

Two computers that were an initial concern when clean-up crews found them appear to be working. Hoback said, however, that may change if corrosion becomes a problem.

Hoback said the largest part of damage and clean-up costs would be the replacement of the ceilings and asbestos removal.

Dinos to dollars



Scott Bruhn/DN

Wan Mafisah Ibrahim, a junior architecture major, has managed Dinosaurs, Etc., the gift shop at Morrill Hall, since September. She credits the store's success to creative and honest employees.

UNL entrepreneurs turn museum shop into teaching tool

By Alex Harriger
Staff Reporter

The UNL Association of Collegiate Entrepreneurs has turned a gift shop in Morrill Hall into a thriving enterprise.

ACE bought the university-run gift shop, which had been closed for six months because of low sales, with help from an outside investor and renamed it Dinosaurs, Etc. The shop has been successful ever since, said Robin Anderson, the group's adviser.

The shop sold more than \$80,000 in merchandise between November 1993, when it re-opened, and November 1994. The profits made by the store go into a scholarship fund for Business Administration majors.

Anderson said the reason why the shop had been so successful was the creativity and boldness of the club members who

operated it. All the day-to-day business of the shop is run by paid club members.

"They have a lot of creativity, enthusiasm and innovation," Anderson said. "They've reduced a lot of the old inventory, and are phasing in a lot of the new items that customers want more."

"Management has made a lot of big decisions. For example, they have put a lot of items down where kids can touch them, to give them more of a hands-on experience."

Wan Mafisah Ibrahim, manager of Di-

See DINOSAURS on 3

Lettuce, two new parties file to run in ASUN elections

By Paula Lavigne
Senior Reporter

One veteran party and two new parties will be vying for seats in the ASUN March elections with platforms on safety, minorities, a de facto wet campus and ASUN spending caps.

Members of the ACCESS, Impact and Lettuce parties said they would file before the Association of Students of the University of Nebraska deadline of Feb. 8.

The Lettuce party finished second in last year's election. Brian Fitzgerald, a senior anthropology major who will run as a Lettuce presidential candidate, said his party had a new image.

"Everything's fantastic," he said. "Our ticket's full. We're professional."

Fitzgerald said Lettuce created a professional campaign to draw more followers.

"Last year we were a little overwhelmed," he said. "This year, we've got more people on our ticket. We wanted to create a more positive image of ourselves."

Lettuce added Andy Smith, a junior elementary education major, as a vice presidential candidate. The party also added Matt Kissler, a senior psychology major, as a second vice presidential candidate.

Lobbying the NU Board of Regents and administration for a de facto wet campus would be one of Lettuce's first goals if elected, Fitzgerald said. Party members have said that a de facto wet campus would allow those 21 and older to have alcohol on campus.

Fitzgerald said Lettuce also wanted to keep

student fees down and impose a \$200 spending cap on ASUN elections.

"Elections should not be bought as they have been in the past," he said.

When parties spend more than \$200, he said, they are buying votes; a smaller budget would force them to think of creative campaign ideas.

The other two parties are new to ASUN elections.

ACCESS student coordinators want to give supporters just that — access.

Chad W. Pekron, ACCESS coordinator, said his party wanted to give minority students a voice in student government.

ACCESS members are associated with minority groups on campus, he said, and are also getting feedback from off-campus and resi-

dence hall students.

"Right now, ASUN seems to be made of just one main group of people," he said. "It's a very small group who have taken over student government and used it for their own benefit."

"It's the plain issue of fairness," he said.

ACCESS wants to address residence-hall issues such as campus escorts, he said. Pekron said he also wanted to see decaying buildings repaired before new buildings were erected.

"With the flood in Walter Scott and Avery, we really need to see some improvement of facilities on campus," he said. "Some of the older buildings are falling down, and it might be better to fix them up instead of building new things."

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