

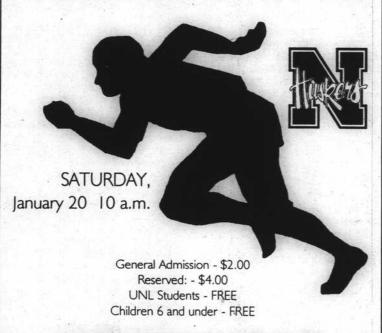
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## Lincoln waits to see if Omaha's recycling bin success continues

By Jenny Parmenter

Omaha residents got an early Christmas present in December, but it wasn't from St. Nick. It was from the city's sanitation department.

And according to an Omaha official, a majority of citizens are using the gift — a green plastic recycling

The bins were distributed to residents' homes during the last two weeks of December, as part of a curb-side recycling program that began Jan. 2.

"So far the program is going along great," said Norm Jackman, Omaha city engineer. "Participation is around 85 percent, when we only expected 50 percent participation. With the old blue bag program, we were only col-lecting 20 tons a day; now we collect

up to 50 tons a day."
Omaha citizens are encouraged to put newspapers, aluminum and tin cans, glass bottles and plastics in the containers for pickup on their normal collection day, he said.

The new program is running a few days whind, causing the public to grumble a little.

"It's a fact of life," Jackman said. "When a new program is initiated, the transition may be a little rough. Our employees are still being trained and need to adjust to the collection."

With such a participation rate, Lincoln residents may wonder if such a program might be initiated soon in the capital city.

Gene Hill, Lincoln city engineer, said Lincoln wasn't currently looking into the bin program, or any other curb-side recycling pickup.

But depending on the success of

the Omaha bin program, that might

We are satisfied with the way the drop-off program is running currently, but we will keep an eye on the Omaha situation and re-evaluate in a few

years," Hill said. He cited economic reasons for not having curb-side recycling.

"Under the curb-side pickup, it would cost the city \$120 per ton, whereas now with our drop-off recycling program, the city pays \$40 per

ton," he said.

If citizens want their recyclables private firms are picked up at the curb, private firms are listed in the blue pages in the phone book. These firms cost \$2 to \$4 per

The estimated cost for the Omaha garbage and recyclables collection is \$4.72 per household every month. The plastic recycling bins are included in this cost.

## Nelson strives for job link system

By Todd Anderson

Staff Reporter

UNL graduates who leave Nebraska because they think few jobs are available may be heading in the wrong direction.

In fact, business and industry leaders across Nebraska have expressed concern for a lack of employees to fill positions and a "brain drain" of college graduates leaving the state.

To help solve the problem, Gov. Ben Nelson recently proposed to the Legislature a program called Work Nebraska, which would help find skilled workers good jobs.

The program is "aimed at reversing the trend of people leaving Nebraska by helping them identify available work opportunities in the state, Nelson said in a statement.

link system between employers and prospective employees, particularly in skilled labor. It would include a community-based recruitment program, a continuous employment con-ditions survey, and a job training and referral program.

Dara Troutman, Nelson's press secretary, said the program was designed to fill available positions with recent college graduates. It also is designed to move employees from positions for which they are overqualified into positions best suited to their skills.

Troutman said Nelson's administration had created more than 82,000 jobs over the last five years. She said Nebraska also was growing - bringing in new pharmaceutical and computer-related companies, for example.

According to the findings of a Michigan State University study, some The program would create a job of the areas with the most job avail- jobs.

ability nationwide are business management and advertising, engineering technologies, computer sciences and health-related professions.

Geri Cotter, acting director for the University Career Planning and Placement Center, said these results matched the available job scene in Nebraska.

The study also identified areas that vere less favorable.

Many students choose areas such as English language and literature, social sciences and psychology. Demand for these areas is not as high as

Cotter said, however, that students shouldn't be discouraged from pursuing careers because they have a strong interest in them. Job opportunities exist in all areas, and the difference is the level of competition for the available

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## Law & Order

A LOOK AT CRIME ON CAMPUS AND IN THE COMMUNITY

### Assault

Police on Thursday arrested a man who allegedly assaulted another man by cutting his throat, according to Lincoln police.

James Lame, 25, was booked on seconddegree assault and use of a weapon to commit a felony, Sgt. Ann Heermann said.

Anthony Boltz was found unconscious Wednesday in a driveway on the 2900 block of P Street.

A third man, who lives at the house where Boltz's body was found, told police that Lame and Boltz were intoxicated when they came to his house Tuesday night, Heermann

Police originally classified the case as attempted homicide but downgraded it to second-degree assault after investigation, Heermann said.

- Chad Lorenz

# Write time.

The Daily Nebraskan is now hiring staffers for the spring semester. Positions are available for staff reporters in news, sports and arts & entertainment. Apply at the Daily Nebraskan, Room 34 in the Nebraska Union, 1400 R. St.