L programs get low ratio

By Chad Lorenz

at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln tom quartile. shouldn't be a problem the next time

Priscilla Grew, vice chancellor for on other faculty's perceptions. research, said a National Research Council study completed in Septem- results of these studies," she said. ber 1995 ranked all but three UNL doctorate programs in the lower half

The study, which was conducted in the spring of 1993, measured the qual- 1992-93 fiscal year was \$20.2 million. ity of the university's doctorate programs by evaluation questionnaires given to university faculty across the nation, Grew said.

UNL's departments of chemistry; biochemistry and ecology; evolution and behavior were the only three that scored in the upper half of all depart-

Ten of the 21 programs studied including philosophy, civil engineering, mechanical engineering, history Low ratings for doctorate programs and economics — ranked in the bot-

But Grew said the study didn't truly programs are evaluated, a UNL vice represent the quality of the doctorate chancellor said Monday. represent the quality of the doctorate programs at UNL because it was based

There is an effect that skews the

In 1993, when the study was done, UNL was ranked 112th for federal research funding, Grew said.

Last year it was \$29.6 million. The ranking for last year was not available because of the federal government shutdowns.

Grew said she wasn't surprised UNL got low rankings during a time

when research funding was low. Former Chancellor Graham Spanier was credited with raising more

funds for doctorate research since then, Grew said. In one program, Spanier allocated research money to the deans to match funds for research proposals, Grew said.

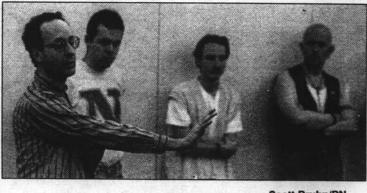
Brian Foster, dean of the College of Arts and Science, started a program called Areas of Strength, Grew said, in which professors teamed up for interdisciplinary research.

The doctorate agriculture programs at UNL weren't evaluated in the study but would have been ranked at the top,

"It's really kind of unfair we can't include that in the research," Grew

Another effort in which the university will work with other colleges on research could give UNL more exposure and a higher reputation among faculty nationwide, Grew said.

'Hopefully next time they get a questionnaire, they'll know about our



Author Warren Blumenfeld told an audience of more than 40 people Monday afternoon in the Nebraska Union that he sees the end of problems with homophobia.

Blumenfeld

Continued from Page 1 portray same-sex couples.

"Sex is discussed as only white, working class and heterosexual," he

If homosexuals did not face stereotypes and harassment, it would be easier for a person to say that he or she is gay, lesbian or bisexual, Blumenfeld said.

Instead, Blumenfeld said, homophobia forces homosexuals into rigid gender roles, diverting energy from more constructive endeavors, restricting development of a self-identity and inhibiting a societal response to AIDS.

Information and education about IDS is lacking in schools, Blumenfeld said.

"I just think about young people growing up today who fear messages like this and who fear derogatory comments."

WARREN BLUMENFELD

author

'So consequently many people die from it. And homophobia is the one pushing it," he said.

To combat homophobia, he said, homosexuals can attend lesbian, bisexual and gay events, challenge homophobic jokes, monitor media coverage, initiate serious discussions and develop support groups.

Nelson distributes funds to combat homelessness

By Ted Taylor

Fifty-five community-based nonprofit programs in Nebraska now have a bit more money to tackle the state's increasing homelessness problem.

Gov. Ben Nelson announced Monday during a telephone news conference that \$1.1 million would be distributed throughout the state to assist programs combating homelessness.
"Unfortunately, there continues to

be Nebraskans who find themselves homeless or on the brink of being homeless," he said.

An October study revealed that 320,000 Nebraskans were near homelessness - at risk of becoming homeless within the year.

The money will be awarded through the 1996 Nebraska Homeless Assistance Program, which is made up of the Homeless Shelter Assistance Trust Fund and the Emergency Shel-

ter Grant Program.

But the state will not receive all of the federal funding it should because of recent budget problems in Washington, D.C

Communities throughout the state, including small rural areas, would use the ball game.'

the funds to provide permanent or temporary shelters and assist families with rent.

Seven regions across the state received funds ranging from \$25,000 to

emphasized Nelson homelessness in the state did not end in metropolitan areas and was beginning to spread to rural communities

Del Bomberger, director of the Lincoln Connection center in North Platte said residents were surprised that most of the town's homeless population were not transients.

"We serviced just over a 1,000 people in our first year," he said, "and majority of services went to North Platte residents.

The smaller communities, just like the larger towns in the state, have prob-

Bomberger said that of the 1,000 people his program assisted last year, 350 were locals, and of the 5,500 total nights of shelter, two-thirds were

occupied by North Platte residents. "We really appreciate the state stepping in and funding something like this," he said. "Nebraska is ahead of

Students can donate blood this week

By Patty Wewel Staff Reporter

The UNL Campus Red Cross wants to drain your blood today. Don't worry — the Red Cross won't take all of your blood.

The annual blood drive takes place today and Wednesday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m in the Centennial Room at the Ne-

Students who want to donate blood should bring either their student identification or their social security card, said Jeana Schmid, the blood drive's cocoordinator.

Also, those wishing to donate should eat at least two to four hours before they donate. Schmid, a junior biology

major, said the goal for the twoday drive was 550 donations. The blood drive is held in conjunction with the American Red Cross, the community blood bank and the health aide pro-

Firemen investigate fraternity gas leak

A natural gas leak sent members of Kappa Sigma fraternity to the sidewalk Monday evening to watch firefighters monitor gas levels in the fraternity house.

Eric Fugleberg, a sophomore fraternity member, said he and some other members of the house were in the kitchen doing dishes after dinner when they smelled gas coming from an old stove.

They had turned on the stove, which hadn't been used in a few years, during dinner to keep some catered food warm, he said. The stove had just been repaired, Fugleberg said.

Deputy fire chief Dean Staberg said the leak was potentially dangerous but was under control.

Erin Schulte





You think that final exam in Advanced Calculus is misery? Try spending Spring Break at home while all your friends cavort in some tropical paradise. But there's an easy escape - come to our H&R Block location right here on campus. Have us complete and electronically file your taxes, and our people can get you your refund in as little as

three weeks - in plenty of time for Spring Break. And, as a special offer for college students, we'll prepare and electronically file both your state and Federal taxes for just \$49.00. Even better, we have an option where you don't have to pay anything up front-your fee can come automatically out of your refund when your return is electronically filed. Other than hitchhiking and staying in some dive, this is your best shot at getting a Spring Break.

February 20-22, Small Ball Room, Union