

## APRIL SHOWERS



Matt Miller/DN

Freshman music education major Jen Backenstose walks back from Westbrook Music Building Sunday afternoon in the rain. Showers and chilly temperatures are expected to last for a few more days, but warmer days are expected by the end of the week.

## Man suffers seizure, drowns

OMAHA (AP) - A 57-year-old Omaha man suffered a seizure while fishing and drowned at the Hanscom Park lagoon Saturday afternoon, police and hospital officials said.

A teen-age boy standing nearby tried to help Jack H. Conrad, but was afraid to jump into the water because he could not swim.

Police officials said Conrad was in the water more than 10 minutes before two bystanders pulled Conrad out.

The two rescuers tried to massage the angler's chest to get the water out of his lungs but Conrad was barely breathing when he was taken to St. Joseph Hospital.

Doctors tried to resuscitate him without success, said St. Joseph Hospital spokeswoman Jo Miller.

"According to our doctors, he had the seizure first but died from the drowning," Miller said. Omaha police spokesman Sgt. William Muldoon said Conrad had a history of seizures.

Jesse Pokorny, a student at South High School in Omaha, said he was fishing nearby when Conrad began shaking. He said he saw Conrad fall into the water, drifting about five feet into the lagoon.

Pokorny said he couldn't reach him and didn't dare to jump in.

"I'm afraid of water; I can't swim,"

he said.

He yelled for help and ran across the park to call 911 from a nearby house. Pokorny's mother, Tina Pike, said she tried to use the pay phone in the park's pavilion to call for help, but it didn't work.

After the rescue squad had taken Conrad to the hospital, the Zebco fishing rod with a 10-pound line, a box of corn he had been using for bait and a wet spot on the rocks remained.

Pokorny stopped fishing. Sitting on the bench, he observed the spot where Conrad fell into the water.

"I tried to grab him, but I couldn't reach him," he said quietly.

## Arbor Day Farm center gets Lied challenge grant

From Staff Reports

NEBRASKA CITY — The Lied Conference Center at Arbor Day Farm received a \$2.5 million challenge grant from the Lied Foundation Trust of Las Vegas, Nev., which it will use to double its lodging capacity.

The grant came during the National Arbor Day Awards Banquet Saturday at the conference center on the southern edge of Arbor Day Farm, which was once the estate of Arbor Day founder J. Sterling Morton.

The estimated cost of expanding the facility from 96 to 200 rooms is

about \$9 million, \$2 million of which will be provided by the Lied Foundation Trust.

The trust will provide an additional grant of \$500,000 toward the existing center if \$1 million in cash donations are raised by the end of the year.

The center opened in October 1993 and has become a popular tourist destination as well as a conference center. Conferences held at the center have addressed topics such as planting trees, community forestry, sustainable agriculture, trees and utilities, educating youth about trees, forest stewardship, trees and the law and biomass for energy.

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