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\$30 million gift largest for NU

By SARAH BAKER
Staff Reporter

It's almost like winning a \$10 million lottery three times in a row.

But instead of taking a risk, the university accepted a gift — its largest ever — for \$29,917,419.

The almost \$30 million check came from the W.E. Barkley trust and was presented to the university Wednesday morning by the University of Nebraska Foundation.

The gift was given to carry out the wishes of the late William E. and Edna M. Barkley and was announced during a ceremony at the Barkley Memorial Center on East Campus.

Before their deaths, the Barkleys, originally from Lincoln, asked that their trust be used to fund the teaching and development of programs to assist persons who have speech and hearing disorders.

NU President Dennis Smith said the gift would play an important part in continuing programs in the University of Nebraska Foundation.

"The university's goal is to achieve excellence in academic programs," Smith said. "With this gift, the university will be able to move to the forefront in the areas of research, teaching and public service."

New prosecutor called for Washington trial

By CHAD LORENZ
Senior Reporter

The Lancaster County Attorney's office will not prosecute Riley Washington in an attempted second-degree murder trial, a district court judge ruled Tuesday.

Washington was accused of shooting at Jermaine Cole at a Lincoln Kwik Shop on Aug. 2, 1995.

The decision delayed the former Nebraska football player's trial date to Oct. 28.

Judge Bernard McGinn ruled that Deputy County Attorney David

The main goal of the Barkley Center is to provide services to students who have special needs. Programs in the Department of Special Education and Communications Disorders teach students how to provide educational and clinical services to people with disabilities.

The speech/language and hearing clinic offers assessment and treatment for adults and children with a variety of disorders.

The Barkley Center also offers extensive research facilities where students work on projects that add to the advancement of knowledge in the areas of speech, special education, language and hearing.

Chancellor James Moeser said the center had a head start in developing the kind of academic excellence he hoped to achieve for UNL.

"We want to make these programs nothing less than number one," Moeser said.

Through the support of private funding Moeser said, he hoped to have top-notch resources. He also said he hoped the impact of this gift would be to create other centers of excellence throughout the university.

"This is an example of what can occur when we have private funding," Moeser said, "an example of what we can accomplish."

Stempson was a material witness in the case because of telephone calls he had with Cole, who moved to Texas.

The defense will call Stempson as a witness, which makes his role as prosecuting attorney a conflict of interest, court records state.

McGinn appointed Lincoln attorney Ron Lahners as the special prosecutor in the case. Lahners is a former county attorney and U.S. attorney for Nebraska.

Washington's trial will continue on Sept. 28, when McGinn will hear the defense's motion to prohibit any out-of-court statements made by Cole from being used as evidence.

NU president skirts search; appoints UNMC chancellor

POSITION IS FILLED
less than one week
after resignation.

By ERIN SCHULTE
Senior Reporter

University administrators didn't have to look far or long to find a new chancellor for the University of Nebraska Medical Center.

Skirting around the months of waiting for a search committee decision, NU President Dennis Smith appointed UNMC's vice chancellor for academic affairs to the post Tuesday, less than a week after

Chancellor Carol Aschenbrener resigned.

William Berndt said he got a call from Smith on Tuesday asking him to take the chancellor position. The call did not come as a total shock.

"I won't say that I had planned on this, but I guess I was one of the obvious choices," Berndt said Wednesday night.

Berndt, who lives in Fort Calhoun, has been with UNMC since 1982 and served as interim chancellor from 1991-92, when then-NU President Martin Massengale hired Aschenbrener.

When Aschenbrener, 51, re-

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RYAN SODERLIN/DN

ANNE SHOEMAKER holds her daughter Kimberly, while her daughter Brooke and friend Austin Robertus count the geese at Pioneers Park.

Geese nestle into Lincoln parks

'CANADAS' OFTEN fly through Nebraska during their seasonal migration.

By ANGELA SMITH
Staff Reporter

You think you have overprotective parents? Well, nothing can compare to the attack of a parental Canada goose.

Several groups of Canada geese have made permanent homes at Lincoln parks and water sites. At Pioneers Park in southwest Lincoln, more than 50 Canada geese live at the park's bird garden.

Park employee Peggy Hunt said the black and white geese, nicknamed "Canadas," are "very loud birds." She said the parents were very protective of their offspring, or goslings.

"When park visitors walk near the nests, the adults hiss and chase

the people," she said.

Park employees said there has never been a report of a goose biting. They assure visitors the geese are only putting on a "hissing show" to defend their young. After the goslings hatch in the spring, the Canadas are more openly aggressive.

Hunt described the behavior of a goose that was entangled in fishing wire. She and other park employees saved the goose, which could not walk and was choking because of the line around its neck. "It hissed the whole time," she said, "even after it was free, it just kept sticking its tongue out and hissing."

Hunt said park employees feed the geese corn and grains from troughs near the lakes. Few geese stay year round, but the population of the boisterous birds reaches into the thousands during migration.

The geese that migrate through Lincoln are known as the Tall Grass Prairie population. The birds leave their nests near the Hudson Bay in

Manitoba when the weather turns cold.

By early October, most of the geese have traveled through Nebraska. Many continue south to the Gulf of Mexico. But hundreds remain in Lincoln to stay the winter.

A three-year migration study of the geese in Nebraska left many of the birds with identification tags.

Joe Gabig, a waterfowl biologist with the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, said more than 4,800 Canada geese have been captured since 1991.

Of those, more than 3,100 have been fitted with leg bands; more than 900 have neck collars. Most of the birds were found between Schuyler and the Interstate 80 bridge at the Platte River near Mahoney State Park.

Gabig said the study produced an up-to-date map of the migration patterns, and a detailed list of behaviors. The information is published and available from the Nebraska Game and Park Commission.

U.S. strikes kill Iraqi attack

MISSILES TARGETED at defense sites leave Saddam 'strategically worse off.'

By SUSANNE M. SCHAFER
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Iraqi forces tested the patrols in a newly-expanded American "no-fly" zone over Southern Iraq Wednesday but were either destroyed or deterred by U.S. forces.

President Clinton said the U.S. military strikes against Iraq have left Saddam Hussein "strategically worse off."

The twin U.S. cruise missile strikes against Iraqi air defense sites this week were a success, Clinton said. They had

been sparked by Saddam's attacks on the Kurds in the north.

"I'm satisfied this mission has achieved the objectives we set out for it," Clinton said in his first assessment of the U.S. moves, which included enlarging the so-called no-fly zone in Southern Iraq.

Saddam now "knows there is a price to be paid for stepping over the line," the president said.

Even so, Iraqi forces confronted U.S. flyers twice as they began their patrols Wednesday over the expanded "no-fly" zone that Washington unilaterally declared Tuesday.

An Iraqi air defense radar site illuminated an Air Force F-16 with its signal, a potential precursor to firing a surface-to-air missile. The "Fighting Falcon" responded by unleashing an anti-radar missile and the site went silent, Defense Secretary William Perry

said.

Two Iraqi MiGs also apparently tried to "lock on" to U.S. jets conducting a routine patrol, but turned away as they neared the 33rd parallel, the northern border of the expanded no-fly zone, defense officials said.

Clinton vowed to stand tough against such Iraqi threats.

"We will do whatever we have to do in the future to protect our pilots," he said.

To reinforce the buffer zone between Iraq and its neighbors, Clinton announced Tuesday that the no-fly zone would be expanded about 60 miles further north, to the 33rd parallel.

That would take it to the suburbs of Baghdad, where a defiant Saddam

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