

Fall Technology Fair shows off bits, bytes of future

By KASEY KERBER
Senior Reporter

More than 30 businesses and UNL organizations put the future on display Tuesday at the Information Services' Fall Technology Fair.

Major corporations, such as Apple and IBM, were represented, as were many campus organizations, including the Computer Shop and University of Nebraska-Lincoln libraries.

Many booths included multimedia displays and a look to the future.

The virtual reality booth provided a hands-on demonstration to visitors, complete with a virtual reality headset and glove.

Aaron Hosier, information technology analyst, said virtual reality technology could be used in the College of Architecture.

"Instead of building an actual model, they can construct one on a computer," Hosier said. "Then they could virtually take a tour of a kitchen and do things like open cabinets."

Hosier's virtual reality could be a reality for the pocketbook as well.

The system he had on display was a "home-batch" system. The virtual reality glove was a \$5 Nintendo glove, the software was free and the \$500 headset was optional.

The booth for Apple Computer Inc. displayed two products of the future—a QuickTime Conferencing Kit and Newton Message Pad 130.

The QuickTime Conferencing Kit allows a computer user to confer face-to-face with another user continents away.

A camera mounted on top of the computer's monitor catches the image of the computer user and almost instantly relays it to the other user's

monitor.

The \$300 QuickTime program also allows both parties in the conference to share views of a document or video presentation.

"It gives you the chance to communicate point to point and also collaborate on ideas," said Apple account executive Grant Hansen.

Apple also revealed a new version of the company's hand-held computer—the Newton Message Pad 130.

With the message pad, users have the ability to write freehand notes on Newton's monitor and automatically have them transformed into neat, clean text.

Hansen said this made Newtons a big seller, but that a newer feature might make them even more appealing.

Using a wireless network card, users of the Newton Message Pad 130 can send and receive information with-

out a need for a modem or cables.

"In a hospital, a nurse could take vital signs, enter them into the database and have the hospital records automatically updated," Hansen said.

"She could also check and see which prescription would be best for a patient—all from her Newton Message Pad."

The Newton Message Pad 130 ranges in price from \$600 to \$700.

IBM also announced new innovations, including its 560 Think Pad and TME 10 NetFinity.

The 560 Think Pad is the lightest laptop computer on the market, and TME 10 NetFinity is IBM's answer to Microsoft's Windows program.

A younger company, South Dakota-based Gateway 2000, gained an audience at the fair with a system including a 31-inch monitor and multi-media on-screen capabilities.

Designed as a "living room sys-

tem," the Gateway 2000 Destination Big Screen PC is capable of showing television shows with a clearer resolution, running any PC computer program or doing both simultaneously.

The system will run from \$3,500 from \$4,800.

In addition to businesses, UNL service providers were at the fair to let students know what they can offer.

The UNL library system announced new features for its on-line services, including an area where students can view circulation records, ask questions about the library and find out its hours at the click of a button.

Joan Konecky, electronic references services coordinator for the UNL Libraries, said plans recently were made to upgrade the Specialized Data Network and Innovative Research Information System.

"People should start seeing enhanced databases in a few months."

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ASUN prepares for round table

By KASEY KERBER
Senior Reporter

Senators will focus on leadership and the continuation of existing goals at tonight's meeting of the Association of the Students of the University of Nebraska.

The upcoming meeting of the Presidential round table will be discussed, said ASUN President Eric Marintzer.

At the round table, presidents of student organizations will look at Homecoming activities and take a closer look at the Safety Aide Program.

Marintzer said ASUN has worked closely with the Safety Aide program. The program is similar to the Health Aide program sponsored by the University Health Center.

"The program gives tips to help people be safe," Marintzer said. "It's a good opportunity for students to stay informed and in the process, stay safe."

ASUN also will focus on leadership at Wednesday's meeting with discussion on upcoming "Meet Your Senator" days.

The days, set for Sept. 18, 25 and Oct. 2, will let students have an opportunity to meet the ASUN senators who represent them.

"I hope that students will take advantage of this," Marintzer said. "Most students just see their senator's picture on the wall, but never really get the chance to meet them."

Each hour, two senators will man the ASUN booth located near the north entrance of the Nebraska Union, near the food court.

Marintzer said senators had already signed up for the hourly slots.

No new legislation is planned for the meeting, and work on Chancellor James Moeser's proposed code of ethics will not begin at Wednesday's meeting, Marintzer said.

Nelson confronts Hagel's proposal

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Nelson said Hagel's cuts could affect student loan programs, the Pell Grants, impact aid that supports Bellevue public schools and other Nebraska educational programs.

In a press release, Hagel said Nelson was protecting the status quo in the department, which includes funding programs that pay for the closed-captioning of the television show "Baywatch" for school children.

Hagel's release, however, did not

present details of his cuts—a practice for which he has been criticized.

Hagel said in press releases that he has never advocated cutting student loans, partly because he used student loans to get a college education. He said he would cut bureaucracy in the department.

"It is ridiculous to suggest that eliminating this bureaucracy would cut student loans, not to mention untrue because not once have I said that it would," Hagel said in a press release.

Administration made up only 1.43

percent of the Department of Education's budget, Nelson said. Even if the entire administrative budget were cut, he said, educational programs would still face a 29-percent cut.

"Maybe he doesn't think we need the \$35,000 to the Columbus library for a literacy program," Nelson said. "He needs to say that."

Nelson said he would not make any cuts in the U.S. Department of Education. He said education was a priority to his campaign.

"You can't say it's a priority and not treat it like a priority."

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Participants learn to deter terrorism

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Instructor Robert M. Scofield said preparing for a terrorist attack was not paranoia, but a legitimate concern for citizens.

"This is not McCarthyism at its best," Scofield said. He added that Americans "can't play into the hands of terrorism" by being complacent.

Scofield is the director of Scofield Associates in Norfolk, Mass., and has extensive experience in law enforcement and emergency planning.

Citizens can help law enforcement in the fight against terrorism, said John Wood, Lincoln Municip-

pal Airport executive director.

In the past year, airport security has been tightened, Wood said, but people need not be more concerned with terrorist attacks in the airport than in town. He said Americans should be aware the threat is legitimate anywhere.

"People need to pay more attention to their surroundings," he said. "Everybody can be eyes and ears" and help detect possible terrorist activity.

Resing said that after the Centennial Park bombing during the Olympics in Atlanta, people became very aware of abandoned backpacks and other unaccompa-

nied bags and packages.

Behavior changes are important steps to reduce the opportunity for an attack, he said.

For example, Scofield said, "When people on the subway see a suspicious abandoned package, they're out of there. It's like a skunk at a lawn party."

But instructors said they knew educating Americans about the terrorist threat would not guarantee that they would take the warning seriously.

"It's like smoking," said Scofield. "There's a threat. It's real. But how many students do you see still smoking?"

Lab move means less space, more hours

LAB from page 1

"This has been a problem," Gilde said. "There are people who think they have the right to anything left in the open, and that's a sad thing."

Gilde said there had been only one tape reported missing, but that the possibility of future tapes being swiped was always there.

To avoid this problem, the language lab recommended that all language instructors collect students' tapes and drop them off at the lab.

"I think the instructors have been very cooperative in this effort," Gilde said. "There's been absolutely no complaints."

Gilde said he hoped the move had not caused too many troubles for students.

"We've tried to reduce student frustrations as much as possible and we've done it from various angles," Gilde said.

Susan Zulkoski, a sophomore pre-med major, thought the lab's changes had helped.

"The new hours are good," she said. "I would like weekend hours, but the regular ones are still OK."

Jeff Protector, a senior political science and psychology major, said he thought the language lab had traded the good with the bad.

"It doesn't have as much space as it used to, but I guess that's the trade-off with the new hours," Protector said.

The language lab's new hours for fall are 8 a.m. to 8:20 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and 8 a.m. to 4:20 p.m. on Fridays.