



Upset

The Nebraska women's basketball team beat No. 13 Texas Tech Sunday. The Huskers are 17-3 overall and 7-3 in the Big 12 Conference. PAGE 7



Bad eruption

"Dante's Peak" is the latest disaster film to hit the big screens in recent months; but this time around, the film's a disaster, too. PAGE 9

SUNNY DISSIPATION

Partly cloudy, high 32. Cold tonight, low 8.

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Riders recuperate in rodeo program

By RYAN SODERLIN
Staff Photographer

As bull riders rub rosin on their bull ropes and bronc riders practice their timing, "Back in the Saddle Again" plays over the public address system at Pershing Auditorium.

The song set the stage for this weekend's World's Toughest Rodeo, but some cowboys need a little boost before they're back in the saddle again.

A mix of chew-spit and dirt coated the floor. But in a dimly lit room on the southeast side of the stage, Ace bandages, athletic tape and antiseptic cleaners sat on a clean, white table.

The medical supplies were the tools of doctors and trainers with the Justin Boots Sportsmedicine program in charge of helping cowboys — and cowgirls — get back in the game.

Rick Foster, program manager, examined bull rider Bob Smith of Britton, S.D. Smith was stepped on by a bull three weeks ago. Purple and green bruises covered his right leg. Electrodes were attached to his skin, and his leg quivered slightly.

"The athletes here appreciate what you are doing. And they really want to get better. If they don't ride, they don't get paid."

MIKE LIVERGOOD
associate athletic trainer

"Getting up and down the road would be tough without it (the program)," Smith said. "Last year I was injury-free, but I haven't started out very well this year."

Another bull rider, Troy Meech

Please see RODEO on 3



RYAN SODERLIN/DN

RICK FOSTER, program manager and athletic trainer for the Justin Boots Sportsmedicine program, tapes up a cowboy's knee before the World's Toughest Rodeo Saturday night at Pershing Auditorium. Foster began volunteering in 1981 and became a full-time trainer in 1985. More than 125 rodeos benefit every year from the services provided through the Sportsmedicine program.

Celebration ties Chinese to tradition

By LINDSAY YOUNG
Staff Reporter

The celebration of the Chinese New Year brought Chinese students and families of Lincoln closer to home Friday night.

Thousands of miles away from their homes in China, the Chinese came together at the Nebraska Union to celebrate their country's largest holiday.

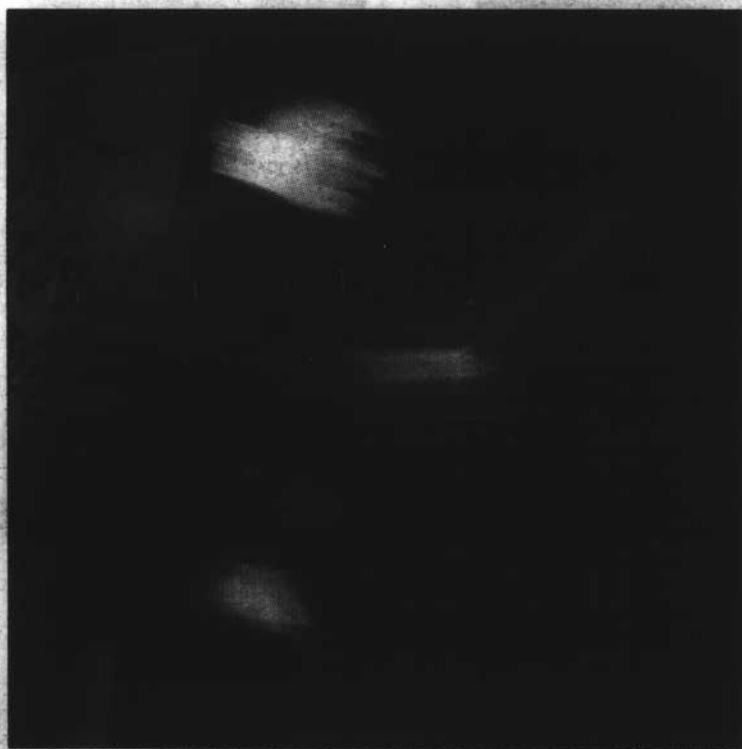
Joining the Chinese in the sold-out crowd of 600 were many American guests and friends of the Asian families.

Tom Furby, principal of Goodrich Middle School, and his daughter Anna Furby came to spend the holiday with a Chinese family they met through the Lincoln Friends of Foreign Students program.

"Celebrating activities and holidays of other cultures gives opportunities for a variety of people to get together," he said.

This statement was echoed by Ping Liu, president of the Chinese Students and Scholars Association.

"In China we have closed our door to the world for several centuries," he said. "The door was



DANIEL LUEDERT/DN

GARY YUAN entertains the audience at the Chinese New Year festivities with an exhibition of Chinese kung fu using butterfly knives. The celebration was held in the Centennial Room of the Nebraska Union Friday evening.

opened 20 years ago. This change is very exciting.

"This is the first time I have felt my home culture outside my home culture."

After the speeches came the fruit of the evening — the entertainment. The goal of festivities, organizers said, was to scare away the beast.

The beast is winter. The Chinese

New Year is the celebration of the start of spring and focuses on scaring away winter.

Entertainment ranged from a traditional Chinese lion dance to diverse musical selections to a Chinese painting demonstration. At the end, Chinese culture bent toward the West when participants joined in the Macarena.

Bill targets sex offenders

By ERIN SCHULTE
Senior Reporter

Legislature

Lancaster County Attorney Gary Lacey says he has proof that pedophiles will sexually victimize children repeatedly if released untreated from prison.

On Friday, he told the Legislature's Judiciary Committee a story about a convicted sex criminal — the kind of person who would be affected by LB323.

The Sexual Predator Act would assign a point system to sex crimes. Points accumulated over the years would mean longer, even lifetime, sentences.

Lacey said the repeat sex offender was released from prison and moved into a house across the street from an elementary school.

The man masturbated while watching children. When he was later arrested, Lacey said, police found semen-soaked tissues in the waste basket near the window. The evidence was proof he could not be cured, Lacey said.

Although the bill was co-signed by 19 other senators, Sen. Ernie Chambers of Omaha, a Judiciary Committee member, had doubts about the bill.

"What did you charge him with? Masturbating? Is that a crime in Lancaster County?" Chambers said.

Lacey said the man was charged with approaching a child.

"Those are the kind of people I worry about," Lacey said. "The reason I'm here is because I want to protect the kids."

But Chambers said the bill was political and catered to the public. He said prosecutors should take advantage of existing laws and stop sex criminals from plea bargaining for shorter sentences.

The bill also would require sex offenders to undergo treatment before being paroled.

David Babcock, legal counsel for the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, said treatment is successful if the person is motivated to do it.

Babcock said treatment refocuses a pedophile's sexual interest in adult partners. He said treatment will not stop the desire, but helps people from acting on it.

Scott Moore, a psychologist who does court-ordered mental evaluations, also said pedophiles were untreatable.

"The legal profession has dumped these people on the psychiatric profession as if we could treat them," Moore said. "If we can't treat them, why should we have them in a mental hospital?"

"They should be in prison."