

# Group mentalities

Events in Seward, Lincoln help bring communities together for holiday

BY SEAN MCCARTHY  
Staff Reporter

Grab a beach towel and pack your cooler (leave out the beer if you're going to Holmes Lake) because the Fourth of July holiday falls on us Friday.

As in the past, the all-day festivities at Holmes Lake, 70<sup>th</sup> and Van Dorn streets, and in Seward will likely draw the biggest crowds in south-east Nebraska.

Seward's traditional Grand Parade is scheduled for 4 p.m. Friday. The fireworks display is scheduled to start at 10 p.m. in Plum Creek Park. Arts and crafts will be displayed in Courthouse Square. Directions to all events will be posted in the city.

The best way to get around

though, is to follow the crowds. It's a fairly small town, so everything is relatively close.

Softball, volleyball, bands and cop-dunking should entertain the large crowds at Holmes Lake. Sand volleyball and softball tournaments are scheduled throughout the day. A "Dunk a Cop" booth will be set up from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m..

The celebration will have a better selection of bands than they have had in the past. Christian rock group Common Ground, folk band Aspen and KRNU staples Rascal Basket are among the groups that are scheduled to play. The Lincoln Municipal Band is scheduled to perform at 8:30 p.m..

The big event, the fireworks display, is scheduled to begin approximately at 10 p.m.. The display will be broadcast live on CableVision

Channel 5. As in the past couple of years, the display will be set to music, broadcast on KNET-FM (95.1).

If bumper-to-bumper traffic irks you, then stay away from Holmes Lake. The weather is predicted to be around 85 degrees, perfect weather for walking or biking.

Another way to avoid traffic is to take the free shuttle bus. The buses will make round trips from the Lincoln East High School parking lot, 1000 South 70<sup>th</sup> street, to the intersection of Van Dorn Street and Normal Boulevard from 4:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m.

There are also a lot of clearings near the lake, making it easy to catch the display without the crowds.

Overall, the Independence Day holiday should offer something for everyone, except traffic-haters.

## Diversity program focus of new budget

BY TASHA E. KELTER  
Staff Reporter

Diversity and distance education programs at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln will benefit most from a budget reallocation announced by Chancellor James Moeser.

Supported by UNL's Academic Planning Committee, the plan will give \$781,000 to distance education and outreach programs and \$709,000 to diversity programs. The honors program will receive \$620,000 and information technology enhancement will receive \$604,000.

Moeser developed the plan last year with a budget advisory committee, which comprised administration members, Eric Marintzer (former ASUN president), John Wunder

(Academic Planning Committee chairman) and Peter Bleed (Academic Senate president).

Moeser has earmarked \$400,000 for a program called Targets of Opportunity Fund, which will help to recruit more minorities and senior women for faculty and administrative positions.

More than \$6 million will go toward developing a cooperative venture of several UNL colleges, called the Plant Science Initiative, which will help Nebraska emerge more competitively in the field of plant science.

Moeser said accomplishing the reallocations took difficult reductions in funding.

Four full-time-equivalent staff positions were eliminated in the first year of the budget plan, and 41 vacant

positions were out. In addition, "operating expenditures and administrative costs" were cut. Thirty-five current positions and 10 vacant positions are expected to be cut in the second year of the budget.

John Benson, director of Institutional Research and Planning, said the new allocations should be viewed as a balanced set of decisions that support each other.

"We need to look at the whole palette of decisions," he said. "They all really work together to strengthen the university."

Benson said he thought the all the reallocations would effect the university in a positive manner.

"I think what came out of [the reallocation process] will have a significant effect on the campus and really move the campus forward."



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