



## SPORTS

### Opening weekend

The Nebraska football, soccer and volleyball teams all open their 1997 campaigns this weekend. PAGE 7



## A & E

### Fruits of your Labor Day

Get giddy this weekend with a generous smattering of suggestions for your big, four-day fun. PAGE 9

## FRIDAY

August 29, 1997

MUY CALIENTE!

Partly sunny, high 92. Partly cloudy tonight, low 71.

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## Summit on dump gives alternatives

BY MATTHEW WAITE  
Senior Reporter

Gov. Ben Nelson said Thursday that calling President Clinton into the struggle over a low-level radioactive waste dump was appealing because Clinton would be sympathetic to Nebraska's plight.

At what was billed as a summit of the five states trying to build a new low-level waste dump, panelists suggested a federally sponsored national system for storing wastes and to end states' efforts to build dumps.

Nebraska, Arkansas, Kansas, Oklahoma and Louisiana are now trying to build a dump in Boyd County. Nelson called the summit to talk about alternatives to the dump, which is four years behind schedule and more than \$120 million over projected costs.

Nelson, despite invitations, was the only governor to attend the summit, something he dismissed as a result of busy schedules.

Only two of the five commissioners on the Central Interstate Low-Level Radioactive Waste Commission attended the summit: Nebraska representative F. Gregory Hayden

and Louisiana commissioner J. Dale Givens.

The summit is another chapter in the troubled story of the compact. Progress has been slowed since 1989 when Boyd County was selected for the dump.

Two states — Arkansas and Nebraska — are now studying whether or not their states should withdraw from the compact.

Nebraska State Sen. M.L. "Cap" Dierks of Ewing proposed a bill last session that would have pulled Nebraska out of the compact. The bill stalled, but Dierks said he would bring the issue back up in the next session.

Dierks, who represents Boyd County, said the county has been torn apart by the project and hard feelings have formed between neighbors.

"I don't think anything can be done to repair the damage," he said. Dierks said the nation does not need a new dump.

Nelson, who has been one of the compact's most ardent opponents, said calling Clinton was an appealing idea because Clinton was governor during the early stages of the five state compact.

Please see **SUMMIT** on 6

## UNL stands by Pepsi Administrators say Coke got fair chance

BY ERIN GIBSON  
Senior Reporter

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln offered Coca-Cola Co. the same opportunities as Pepsi Cola Co. to bid on the exclusive right to sell beverages on campus, a university official said Wednesday.

James Main, assistant vice chancellor for business and finance, said both companies bid on a 10-year contract last October, but Pepsi was asked to bid for an additional two years during final contract negotiations in May.

"When Coke said it wasn't given a fair deal ... that's as erroneous as can be," he said.

Both Pepsi's 10-year and 12-year bids beat Coca-Cola's bids, Main said.

Last week, a local Coca Cola representative told the Daily Nebraskan that his company was not given the option to bid on a 12-year contract, and that an additional two years "could have made a difference in (Coca-Cola's) proposal."

Allen Baird, Coca-Cola sales center manager in Lincoln, later told Main he did not mean to imply contract negotiations were unfair, and Baird did not have intimate knowledge of contract negotiations after last October, Main said. Baird was unavailable for comment Thursday.

Both beverage companies submitted original bids last year on an exclusive right to sell their beverages for 10 years on the University of Nebraska-Lincoln campus.

In December, the university heard extended presentations from both companies on their beverage contract proposals. At that time, Main said both companies' interest in signing a beverage contract with the university exceeded his expectations.

Main said the companies asked, "What's it

“*When Coke said it wasn't given a fair deal ... that's as erroneous as can be.*”

JAMES MAIN  
assistant vice chancellor

going to take to get this deal?”

The university increased its expectations of what it could receive from a beverage contract, he said.

In March, after continued contract negotiations, both companies asked that the university choose between them and finish negotiations with one beverage provider to prevent needless bickering between the companies.

"We told Coca-Cola that we decided to pick Pepsi and negotiate," Main said.

But Coca-Cola said that was "unacceptable," he said, and asked the university for another opportunity to bid on the contract.

The university then accepted another proposal from Coca-Cola. The company offered a contract worth about \$19.5 million over 15 years, but the university would have considered that proposal only if negotiations with Pepsi soured, Main said.

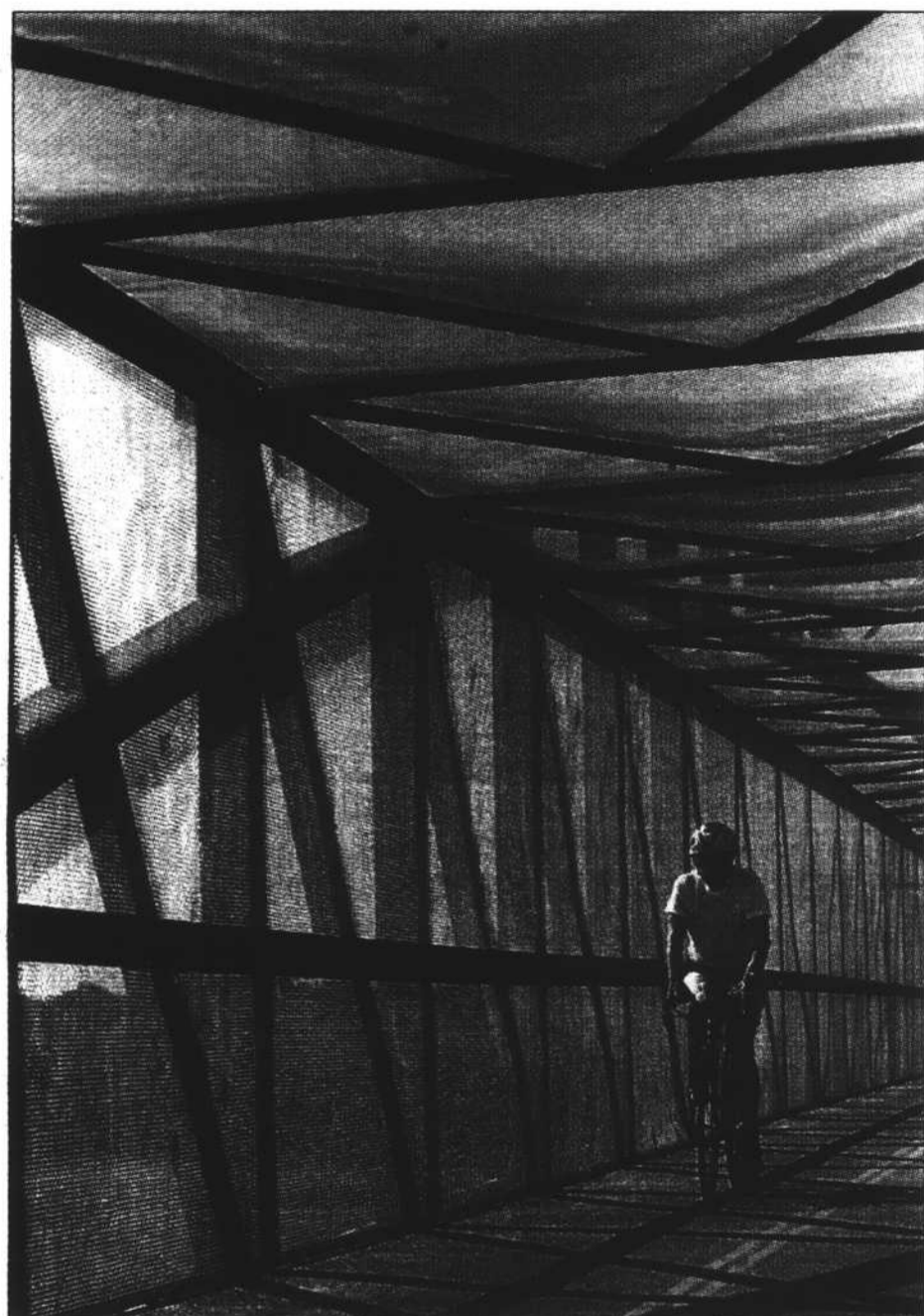
But the negotiations with Pepsi did not sour, he said. They got better.

After a meeting with Coca-Cola and Pepsi officials in Minneapolis, the university knew Pepsi was its best choice for a profitable beverage contract.

"We came back. We evaluated the circumstances. We chose Pepsi," Main said.

The university then contacted Pepsi offi-

Please see **COLA** on 2



MATT MILLER/DN

A LONE BIKER crosses the bike bridge over Nebraska Highway and 27<sup>th</sup> Street. The bridge, which opened last winter, helps pedestrians and bike riders cross the busy intersection and also helped get Lincoln's trails named one of the nation's 10 best by the American Hikers Society.

## Bike trails provide easier, inexpensive path to travel

BY JOSH FUNK  
Assignment Reporter

For many students the headaches involved with parking meters, tickets, permits and bus exhaust are a thing of the past.

And those students have found a way to get nearly everywhere in Lincoln at the same time.

Their secret lies in Lincoln's 72-mile network of bike trails. A haven of sorts for both commuters and recreational users, Lincoln's trail system was recently named one of the top 10 in the nation by the American Hiking Society.

Some students who use the trails agree with that assessment.

"I do a lot of commuting on the trails to work and school. They're a good way to get around town," said Eric Peterson, a senior construction management major.

For Trampis Wrice, a senior nutritional science major, just having trails on which to ride is something to appreciate.

"The trails here are real nice," Wrice said. "Many other places don't even have trails at all."

Mark Janike, a senior education major, said the trails still have a lot of potential.

"The trails here in Lincoln are pretty good, and they keep getting better," Janike said.

In the last 10 years the trail system in Lincoln has grown with the conversion of several old rail beds, said Rich Rodenburg, owner of Bike Pedalers.

Jim Morgan, director of Lincoln Parks and Recreation, said that trend would continue.

A trail from Van Dorn and Ninth streets to Pioneers Park, just west of Van Dorn

Please see **TRAILS** on 6