

NU Technology Park warms to businesses

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research and student internships with blossoming new businesses, he said.

Although there are about 145 technology business incubators in the United States and Canada, the NU technology-based incubator will be the first in Nebraska, he said.

The incubator's technology emphasis means only businesses based in cutting-edge technology practices and research will be accepted. A business incubator without a technology requirement exists in north Omaha, Henderson said.

vice chancellor for research, said the incubator will open with 82 percent occupancy, which far exceeds the university's 60 percent goal.

Helmuth said about 2,100 square feet remaining in the building is still available to young companies needing chemistry-lab-type equipment.

As businesses in the incubator grow, they can expand to one of 24 building sites in the technology park, each consisting of about 1 million square feet of space, he said. The incubator can also expand to 60,000 square feet.

Helmuth said he hopes the tech-

CORRECTION

hometown of Pepsi Week's featured band, National B, from

The Daily Nebraskan on Kearney. And only students will Monday incorrectly identified the be eligible to win 10 keys to the Mountain Dew Jeep this week.

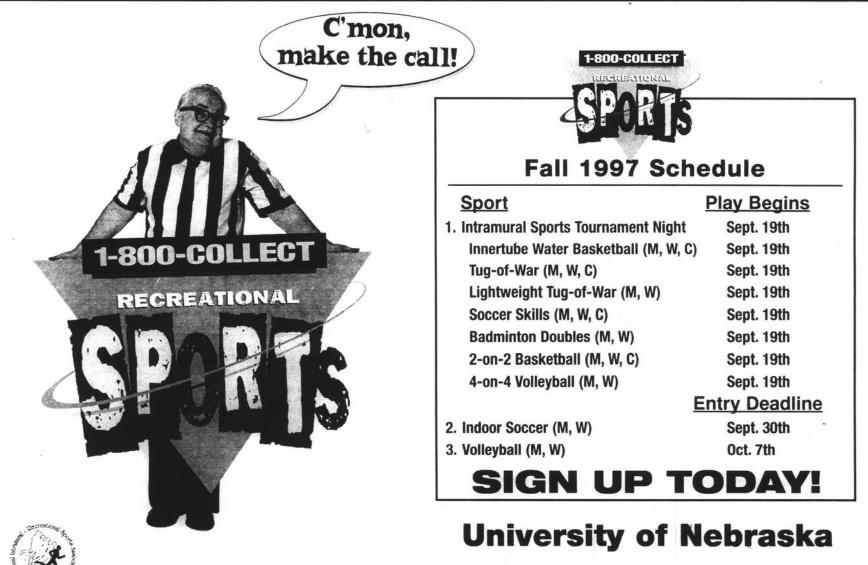


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nology park businesses will grow, and employ students as interns and former students as full-time employ-

Henderson said he's working to establish with the incubator's first seven businesses an internship program that will "take them out of the theory-learning process of the classroom, and put them into a real-life practical work experience."

In his experience with other incubators, Henderson found "a lot of students get hired by these companies they've been interning with," he said.

Maruflu said he also plans to hire Don Helmuth, UNL associate students as employees of Xodiac Inc. This fall, he needs to hire a new graphic designer and two salesmen, he said, and he wants UNL students or graduates to fill the positions, either as interns or full-time employ-

> "I really like working with students," Maruflu said. After all, he is a student and knows what they're capable of achieving.

And he will hire even more UNL students and graduates as his business, which he hopes will expand into a larger spot in the technology park and just five minutes from campus, he said.

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