



SPORTS

Husker pilot

Junior transfer Kim Engesser, a former Portland Pilot, leads the Nebraska soccer team this season in goals. **PAGE 10**



A & E

Grateful 'heads

Picture a San Francisco band, just traveling, traveling free. Saturday night, Zero will keep the kids dizzy with its energy. **PAGE 12**

THURSDAY

September 18, 1997

UMBRELLA ADVISORY

Chance of storms, high 88. Cloudy tonight, low 57.

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Nelson promises busy end to term

■ **The governor's "Success 2000" agenda includes support of distance education and keeping Nebraska students in the state.**

BY ERIN GIBSON
Senior Reporter

Gov. Ben Nelson on Wednesday vowed to play hardest "during the final two minutes of the game," and outlined an aggressive agenda for his last 16 months in office.

Through his "Success 2000" agenda,

Nelson renewed his commitments to support distance education, to keep Nebraska college students working in the state after graduation, and to develop voluntary statewide academic standards for grade school students.

Nelson also vowed to reduce income taxes, increase government efficiency with technology, expand Welfare to Work programs statewide, expand health-care services for uninsured children and the elderly, and improve crime victims' services through law enforcement.

Nelson, who has been governor since 1990, is ineligible to run in November 1998 because Nebraska governors are limited to two terms in office.

NU President Dennis Smith said he was pleased Nelson chose to continue promoting distance education and lifelong learning opportunities statewide.

"I think extended education is a fundamental goal," Smith said. "It's one of our priorities. I think it's necessary for the economic development of the state."

Irv Omtvedt, University of Nebraska-Lincoln vice chancellor for extended education, also said he was delighted the governor outlined distance education as a priority.

UNL now leads the state in distance education efforts, he said, and seeks to coordinate its efforts with other institutions that provide distance education in Nebraska. Omtvedt said

Nelson has consistently supported developing distance education opportunities, and he would be willing to "work hand-in-hand" with the governor on developing a vision for the future of UNL's extended education program.

"The mission of UNL as a land-grant institution is to be the people's university," Omtvedt said, and extending its educational opportunities fits well with that mission.

The University of Nebraska already has distance learning centers in Scottsbluff, North Platte, College Park in Grand Island, and is developing a new center at Northeast Community College in Norfolk.

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Road to a better future

At-risk students, mentors connect at 'Crossroads'

BY KIM SWEET
Staff Reporter

Karen Stone started her freshman year at UNL with some of the same bewilderment many freshmen face because of new faces, large classes and a barrage of opportunities. But she started her college career with a special connection.

Thanks to her senior mentor, Mitch Schreiner, Stone was familiar with campus, already involved in Campus Red Cross, and had an upperclassman's advice.

Stone and Schreiner's friendship began with a new program at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln called Crossroads, a joint effort of the Student Opportunities and Service program and Mortar Board. It recruits at-risk students in the SOS program and matches them up with Mortar Board members. The students in SOS are first-generation college students who have ACT scores under 24 and come from low-income families.

The mentors and mentees spend time together buying books, writing e-mail to each other, attending monthly Crossroads events put on by the SOS program and creating their own activities. How often each mentor and mentee meet, and what they do depends on each student's wants and needs.

Although monthly Crossroads activities are planned for the group of 40 SOS students and Mortar Board members, it is up to each group to meet whenever they want, helping each relationship to grow

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We hope that these freshmen will strive to be in Mortar Board someday themselves.”

NINA NEUBERT
SOS academic counselor

more personal.

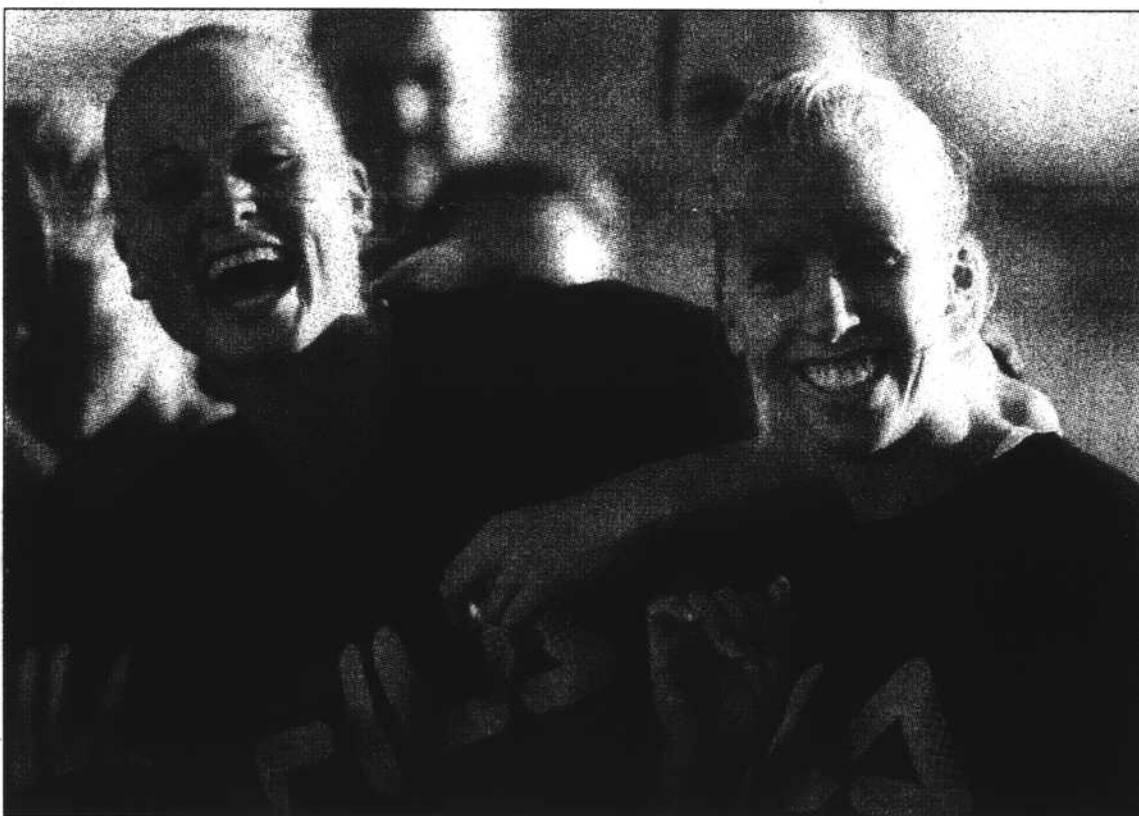
Briana Hooi, Mortar Board member and Crossroads coordinator, said the program was a perfect opportunity to provide mentors to a group of students who didn't have any.

"A lot of us in Mortar Board have been identified as successful students. Some SOS students aren't picked out that way. Our goal is to use our experiences as the so-called chosen to share the benefits with those who may not necessarily be seen that way," Hooi said.

Mortar Board started Crossroads as a way to serve students with its three ideals: scholarship, leadership and service. Last spring the group's president Brian Oxley and Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs James Griesen brainstormed ways that the group could lend those ideals to other students and decided they could be

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Put me in, coach



MATT MILLER/DN

NU SOCCER PLAYERS Lindsay Eddleman, left, and Jenny Benson tease Coach John Walker during a scrimmage earlier this season. Eddleman and Benson will lead the Huskers against Iowa State at the Abbott Sports Complex tonight at 7. Please see story on page 10.

UNO hopes to construct new engineering program

BY ERIN GIBSON
Senior Reporter

University of Nebraska engineering administrators will present a proposal to create a new construction engineering program and department in Omaha, although a nationally prominent construction management department exists at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

"It's our intent to see Omaha be a focus of construction and infrastruc-

ture, and we want to drive toward that end result," said Paul Seaburg, associate dean of engineering for the University of Nebraska at Omaha.

The new program would better meet the needs of Omaha's strong construction industry by giving construction students a strong engineering focus. The construction management program, which the College of Engineering and Technology offers in Lincoln, focuses less on engineering than management, he said.

Engineering administrators and

faculty have been developing the proposal for the new Omaha-based program for more than three years, and could send it to the NU Board of Regents by this spring, Seaburg said.

Seaburg said it was unclear whether the construction management department in Lincoln would be affected by the proposal, but he could not rule out a change.

About 260 students are now enrolled in the construction manage-

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