



SPORTS

"Mak" truck

Nebraska junior fullback Joel Makovicka is on pace to set a Nebraska fullback rushing record this season. PAGE 9



A & E

Tennessee lamb

Garth Brooks received a thundering roar from the Bob Devaney Sports Center crowd as the entertainer began a five-night stay. PAGE 7

THURSDAY

September 25, 1997

SUNNY GAME HOME

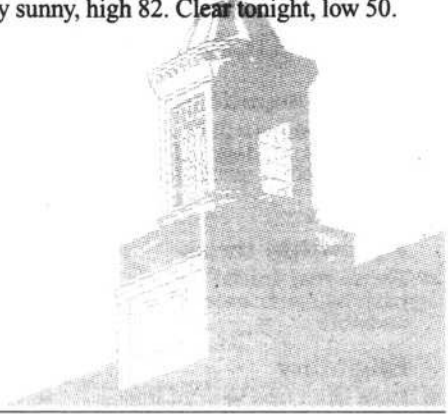
Mostly sunny, high 82. Clear tonight, low 50.

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Thunder rolled



GARTH BROOKS, the 1997 Country Music Association's Entertainer of the Year, performs to a sold-out crowd Wednesday night at the Bob Devaney Sports Center. Brooks, who has four more sold-out shows left in the Star City this week, was told he won the award before he took the stage for his second encore. More than 62,000 tickets were sold for the five shows, which broke a Devaney Center record. This is his first appearance in Lincoln since 1993. Please see stories on 7.

Nelson issues grants

■ Nebraska businesses receive gifts totaling \$376,013, as the state's economy improves.

BY TED TAYLOR
Assignment Reporter

Nebraska business partnership projects from Omaha to Scottsbluff were given an economic boost Wednesday after Gov. Ben Nelson handed out \$376,013 in grants to 18 projects statewide.

Nelson's announcement came after he told reporters business revenue in the state was thriving, based on the latest Quarterly Business Conditions Survey.

The study showed that 75 percent of Nebraska businesses reported second-quarter revenues as good or better than during the same period last year. The study also showed that 89 percent of Nebraska businesses expected third-quarter revenue to be equal to or higher than last year's.

"This is all good news for the state of Nebraska and for Nebraska taxpayers," he said.

Please see GRANTS on 6

Campus rec loses staffer, good friend

BY JOSH FUNK
Assignment Reporter

On Friday the University of Nebraska-Lincoln will have to replace a good friend to the Campus Recreation Center, director Stan Campbell said.

Outdoor Adventures assistant director Jim Fullerton, who has been with the program for nine years, is heading to Idaho State University in Pocatello, to become a leadership training coordinator.

Fullerton's new position at Idaho State was created by the student government. He starts his new job Monday.

"We were impressed by the fact that he took the time to talk to the students about his background in leadership activities," said Shane Ostermeier, Idaho State student body president.

The job will involve working with the 134 student activities at Idaho State.

Please see REC on 6

Moeser works to energize academic honors standards

BY BRIAN CARLSON
Assignment Reporter

Citing the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's recent rise in academic standing, Chancellor James Moeser vowed Wednesday night to make UNL a "supercharged academic and intellectual environment."

To build on its recent progress, UNL must continue to recruit top-notch minds, Moeser told a group of honors students at Neihardt Residence Hall.

"When I said this was the best freshman class ever, it was not just rhetoric — it was really true," he said.

With increased entrance standards, the average ACT score of incoming freshman rose from 23 in 1996 to 24 in 1997.

U.S. News and World Report recently rated UNL as the 41st best value in the nation. In addition, the magazine increased UNL's standing from third tier to second tier.

Moeser said that to continue its rise, UNL must be committed to a strong University Honors Program and scholarships for bright students, both in state and out of state.

"I want to raid other states for their best minds, too," he said.

Moeser fielded questions from

students on a variety of honors program issues.

Several students, including chemistry and engineering majors, expressed concern about the scarcity of honors classes in their major.

Moeser said he and honors program faculty were working with all the university's deans to enhance honors opportunities.

"Frankly, there are probably some faculty who resent the honors program — especially if it increases their workload," Moeser said. "But a lot of faculty find it exciting and are challenged by it."

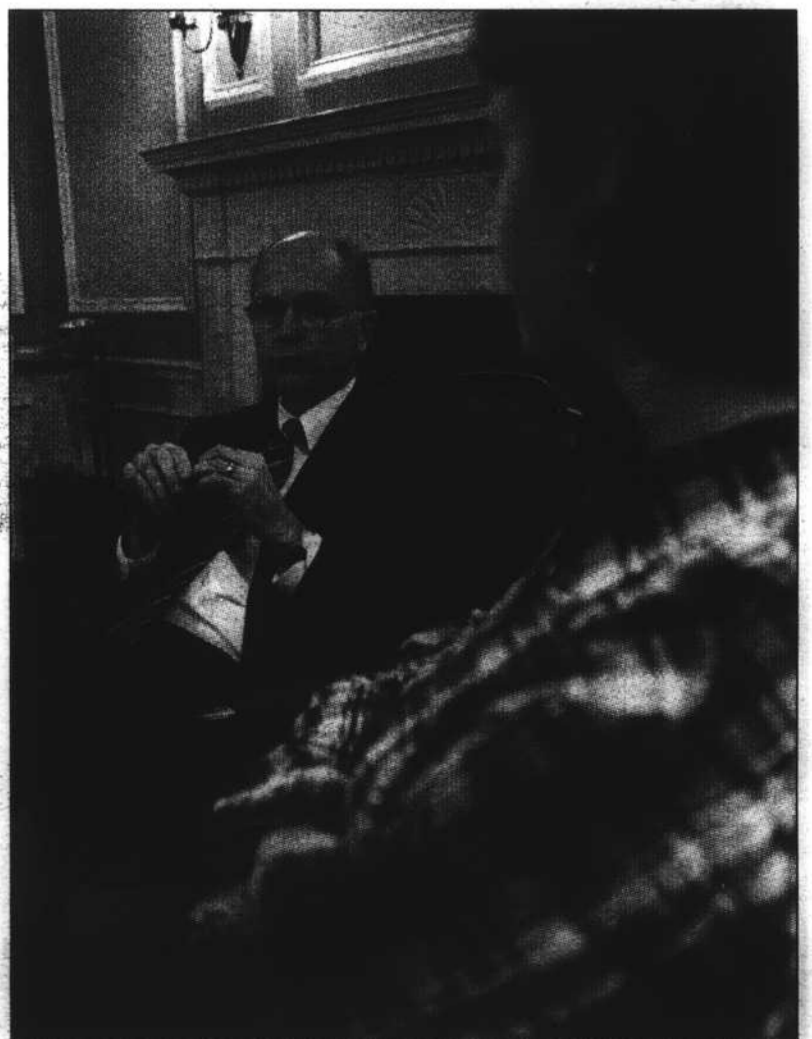
Moeser suggested an increase in research programs for honors credit. Students could then work side by side with their professors in their field of study, he said.

Other students worried that certain honors classes simply required more work, rather than being more in-depth.

Moeser said honors classes should be not more difficult, but "more fun and more challenging."

Moeser also said efforts were underway to appoint an honors adviser in each college.

Moeser said "a huge chunk" of the \$1 million in annual revenues from UNL's Pepsi contract will be allocated for merit scholarships.



CHANCELLOR JAMES MOESER addresses the question of Jennifer Griffin, a senior biochemistry major, Wednesday night in Neihardt Residence Hall.