

Quick Recovery

Nebraska striker Lindsay Eddleman wasn't going to let a sprained ankle make her miss NU's NCAA Tournament game. **PAGE 7**

Epidermal epidemic

Lincoln adds another parent-perturbing venue with the addition of Aardvarx tattoo parlor, located under the O Street viaduct. **PAGE 9**

November 18, 1997

REPEAT PERFORMANCE

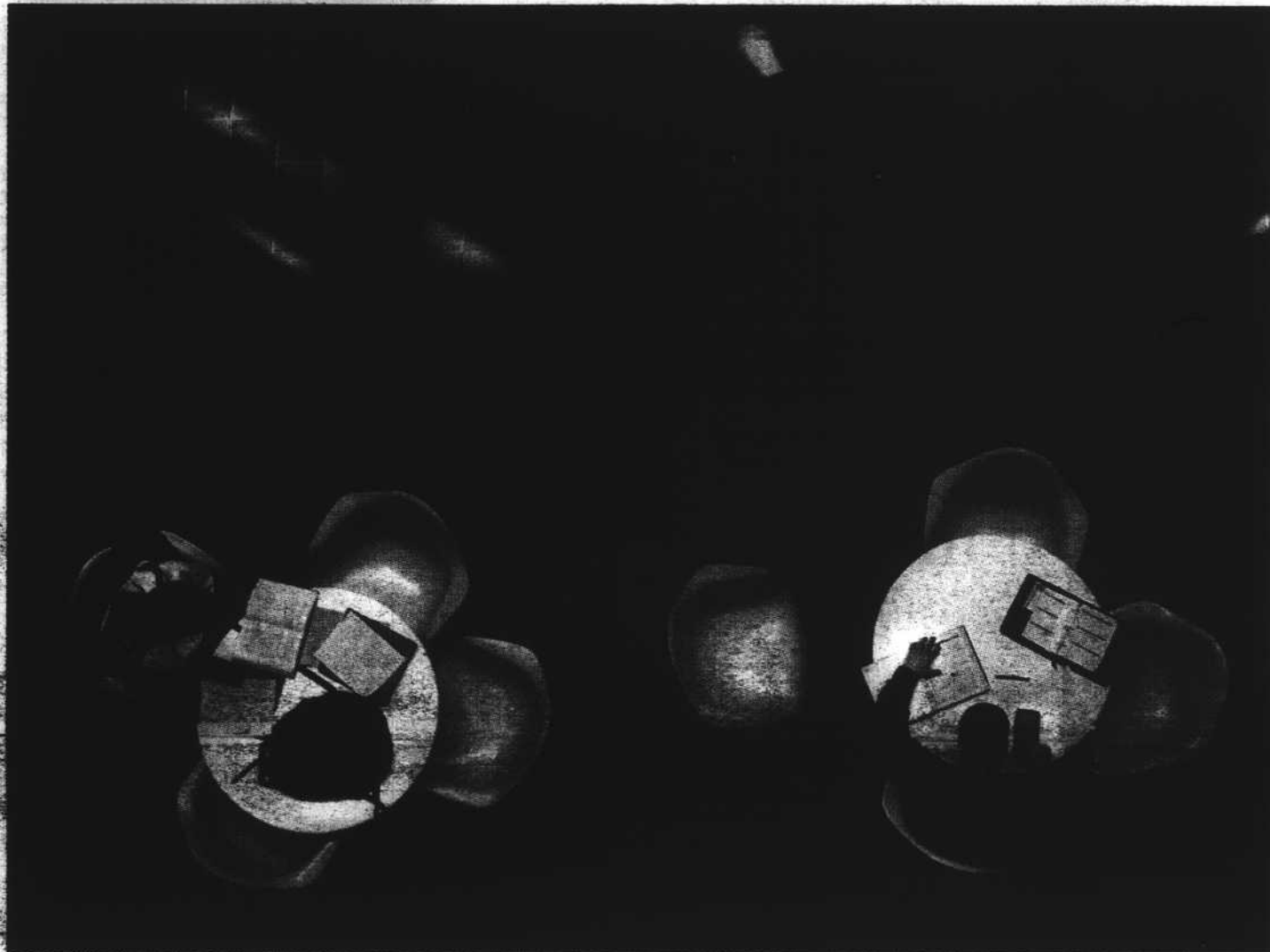
Partly sunny, high 48. Partly cloudy tonight, low 25.

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Morning highlights

SENIOR MATH MAJOR Tina Sposato, left, and freshman architecture major Bruce McCloy study on the first floor in Architecture Hall Monday morning.

Johanns asks for one more cleanup push

By **TED TAYLOR**
Senior Reporter

Find the Ben-Gay – again.
Stretch out those arms and legs – again.
Grab the work gloves and the children, and get ready for one more weekend of dragging tree limbs to the curbs and hauling them to a drop-off site.

Mayor Mike Johanns announced Monday that the first stage of the city's October snow-storm cleanup was a "tad" ahead of schedule, and he proposed one final weekend of residents lending a hand to help finish off the debris removal.

"We're asking the city of Lincoln to lend a hand again," Johanns said in a news conference.

The mayor declared Saturday and Sunday a citywide cleanup weekend hoping to put an end to phase one of the cleanup.

He urged residents to "look toward their neighbors, take their pickup trucks and strong hands and help them."

Johanns said that anyone interested in helping those who need assistance should call the Salvation Army at (402) 474-6263.

He also asked businesses and civic groups to get together to help clean Sunken Gardens, city parks and hiker and biker trails that weren't a top

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Stores 'Target' U.S. monument restorations

By **BRAD DAVIS**
Assignment Reporter

Two University of Nebraska-Lincoln graduates are helping to restore the Washington Monument in Washington D.C.

One of the men helping with the restoration, Bob Thacker, came to his alma mater Monday to speak to a journalism class.

Advertising Professor Stacey James said Thacker, vice president of marketing for Target Stores, didn't portray the stereotypical advertiser.

Thacker said his company, Target Stores, strives to make an impact in the communities where its stores are, and in the entire United States, by pledging 5 percent of its pre-tax profits to charities across the nation.

Recently, Target has forged "cause marketing" alliances with companies like Kodak, to raise the money necessary to repair the Washington Monument, Thacker said.

These alliances allow Target customers to buy designated products, and a portion of both Target's and the designated company's proceeds from the product benefit the restoration.

Target has generated \$5 million for the restoration of the Washington Monument through the cause marketing program.

Please see **MONUMENT** on 6

Missing cash investigated

By **ERIN GIBSON**
Senior Reporter

A former University of Nebraska employee is suspected of embezzling about \$60,000 from the West Central Extension Center in North Platte during the past year, officials said Monday.

Most of the amount stolen was private grant money intended to support research at the university's center, officials said.

Charges against the unnamed suspect, who had worked at the center for three years, have yet to be filed pending a criminal investigation.

Alan Moeller, assistant vice chancellor for the Institute for Agriculture and Natural Resources that oversees the centers, said a former accounting clerk at the center is suspected of embezzling the money by wrongly depositing university funds into a non-university employee account and later withdrawing the funds in cash.

Gary Hergert, interim director of the center, said one of 20 faculty members at the center discovered the embezzlement a few days after

the clerk quit her job with the university.

The faculty member had requested a report on several accounts at the center, he said. The reports were regularly issued, but had been delayed because of several administrative changes at the center.

When the faculty member got the report, she found a deficit in the employee sundry account, Hergert said. The account usually held money donated by center employees to buy coffee, candy, flowers and other employee perks.

The day after the clerk left, center accountants started checking past activity on the account. They found that one of the funds had an unusual amount of activity, he said.

"This was a fund that, usually ... \$200 worth of business would have been a big year," Hergert said. "We knew something strange was going on."

Further internal investigations found the clerk had deposited important university checks into the sundry account by stamping the checks with the sundry fund stamp.

“

The procedures we had in place were fairly adequate and generally would have stop that kind of thing.”

GARY HERGERT

interim director of West Central Extension Center

Then, the employee would forge the signature of employees authorized to write checks from the account and withdraw cash from the account.

"Most 10-year-olds looking at (the checks) could tell they were forgeries," Hergert said.

The embezzlement may have started slowly as early as December, he said, but it began in earnest six months ago.

On Oct. 21, Hergert said he contacted Moeller to report the evidence of embezzlement.

"(I was) shocked," Moeller said. "Very concerned."

Moeller immediately called the university police and met with university auditors that day.

An auditor from the NU Operations Analysis Office in Lincoln went to North Platte Oct. 24 for further investigation.

University Police Chief Ken Cauble went to North Platte on Nov. 4 to begin the criminal investigation with the office of Lincoln County Attorney Kent Turnbull.

Some of the center's loss could be covered by the university's insurance, which carries a \$10,000 deductible.

Since discovering the embezzlement, Moeller said he and Linda Enck, NU director of operations analysis, have met with the district directors of all university exten-

Please see **MONEY** on 3