

## Play ball!

The Nebraska baseball team opens its season this weekend in the Metrodome in Minneapolis against Minnesota. PAGE 7

## Blowing smoke

Malcolm Kass, that wily wonder of student government, lights up several concerns he has about UNL's master plan to ban cigarette sales on campus, and push up student fees as a result. PAGE 5

JASON CAN WEAR SHORTS

Partly sunny, high 50. Cloudy tonight, low 27.

# Daily Nebraskan

VOL. 97

COVERING THE UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA-LINCOLN SINCE 1901

NO. 102

## Asian students get aid

Administrators respond to the financial crisis with emergency funding.

BY BRAD DAVIS  
Senior Reporter

Asian students who are suffering from a rapid currency devaluation will have access to \$150,000 in emergency assistance funds, UNL administrators announced Thursday.

Theron Snell, director of foreign student programs in International Affairs, said each qualified student in the affected countries could receive up to \$2,200 — some in loans, some in grants.

Administrators have named the countries most affected by the financial crisis: Indonesia, Korea, Malaysia, the Philippines and Thailand.

Students in the affected countries, Snell said, would be required to "make a case" describing their personal financial difficulties, which would determine the amount of aid they would receive.

Although he is sure the aid packages will be need-based, Snell said the administration is still working out the details of how students' needs will be evaluated.

If qualified, Asian students could be eligible for up to \$1,000 in loans and up to \$1,200 in grants.

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Chancellor James Moeser said money received from UNL's more than \$24 million beverage contract with Pepsi-Cola Co. would be used to finance all the grants and half the loans.

The other half of the loan funding will come from the NU Foundation's short-term student loan fund, he said.

Soon Goo Hong, president of the Korean Students Association, said the assistance could greatly help undergraduate students.

"The Korean students want to study in America to learn English and the American culture," Hong

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## Happy birthday, Abe



DANIEL LEUDERT/DN

KENT SINRAM of Lincoln and Leo Kirk of Omaha stand outside the State Capitol Thursday afternoon guarding the statue of Abraham Lincoln. Lincoln, the 16<sup>th</sup> president of the United States, would have been 189 years old Thursday.

## Police warn of rape scare

BY JOSH FUNK  
Senior Reporter

Lincoln Police are looking for two suspects in connection with two rapes that occurred last week.

Police released composite sketches of the suspects Thursday.

One suspect is wanted for a rape that occurred outside Guitars and Cadillacs, 5400 O St. on Feb. 5.

The suspect confronted a woman in the alley behind the club with a knife and took her to the side of a duplex on 56<sup>th</sup> Street, where he sexually assaulted her, Lincoln Police Sgt. Ann Heermann said.

He is described as a white man,

approximately 6 feet tall, 180 pounds and in his 30s with curly brown hair. He was wearing a dark jacket and sweater, black jeans and boots.

The other rape took place in an apartment near 12<sup>th</sup> and Arapaho streets in south Lincoln.

The man knocked on the victim's door, saying he had car trouble. When the victim opened the door, the suspect forced her inside at knife-point

where he sexually assaulted her, Heermann said.

The suspect is described as a thin white man in his mid- to late-20s with dark blond hair. He was wearing a black jacket and light blue jeans.

Although the crimes happened in different areas of the city, the

Please see RAPE on 2

“Call the campus escort service.”

Sgt. MYLO BUSHING  
University Police

## Student driven by his heritage

BY AMANDA SCHINDLER  
Staff Reporter

For most UNL students, going home to visit their families and old friends can be a welcome change from the daily routine.

But they know exactly where home is and who they will find there.

Vernon Miller does not.

Miller, an American Indian, once did know, before he and his family moved off the Omaha Indian Reservation in Macy when he was 9 years old.

Now, the sophomore business and secondary education major is simply not sure.

"I don't fit in anywhere," he said, "not back home, because I moved away, and not here (at UNL)."

The outgoing president of the

University of Nebraska-Lincoln Inter-Tribal Exchange calmly explained the differences he encountered after leaving his home and family behind for a better life in Lincoln.

And his involvement in campus activities definitely doesn't suggest a lack of belonging.

"I want to give back to the university by getting involved in organizations on campus that I feel make a difference," he said, citing a list of campus club memberships including the Student Foundation, Phi Beta Lambda Honorary Society, Student Education Association and the Association of Students of the University of Nebraska.

Despite the improvements in his life, Miller said he still feels something is missing.

Please see MILLER on 2



DANIEL LEUDERT/DN

VERNON MILLER, president of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Inter-Tribal Exchange, said returning home to the Omaha Reservation isn't like returning home at all. But 11 years after moving from the reservation, homework, three jobs and his involvement in several campus organizations has helped him adjust to life at UNL.