

Hogtied!

The Nebraska men's basketball team blew a 10-point lead to fall to Arkansas 74-65 in the first round of the NCAA Tournament **PAGE 7**



Marry making

As the Rev. Jimmy Creech's trial for marrying a lesbian couple continues, Barb Churchill wonders if the church has considered its dilemma. **PAGE 5**

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JASON WILL FREEZE

Partly cloudy, high 30. Cloudy tonight, low 10.

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Students rally behind UNL instructor



CENTER: UNL CHEMISTRY INSTRUCTOR Bill McLaughlin helps elementary education majors Lisa Kopf, left, and Kim Frantzen, right, make models of esters. The class, Chemistry 195, also known as "hands-on chemistry," was making an ester commonly known as oil of Wintergreen.

RYAN SODERLIN/DN

Administrators say there is not enough money to keep chemistry instructor Bill McLaughlin on staff

By BRAD DAVIS
Senior Reporter

Some UNL students say administrators should put their money where their mouth is when it comes to hiring an adjunct chemistry instructor.

With much-touted plans for increased academic rigor and a renewed commitment to undergraduate education, University of Nebraska-Lincoln administrators are "not keeping up their end of the bargain" if they do not hire Bill McLaughlin, said sophomore Stephanie Schardt.

About 50 students attended Wednesday's student government meeting, urging senators to draft a bill in support of McLaughlin, a temporary instructor who teaches two beginning chemistry classes and two classes for chemistry teachers.

McLaughlin said he was hired originally as a one-semester instructor for fall 1997 but was allowed to stay for the spring semester.

Now the administration says there is no money to hire McLaughlin beyond this semester. And even if funding were available, a national search first would have to be conducted to fill an instructing position, it says.

Many students said a comprehensive, national search couldn't locate a better instructor than McLaughlin, who polished his teaching skills at a St. Joseph, Mo., high school for 27 years.

"He's the best teacher I've ever had," said Renee Ritchie, a junior biochemistry major. "He's

Please see **INSTRUCTOR** on 2

Playwright visits English classroom

By IEVA AUGSTUMS
Assignment Reporter

Students in a small, intimate English class learned on Thursday the essence and obligation needed to write and perform a less-traditional topic: gay and lesbian literature.

Twenty-nine students enrolled in "Sex Roles in Literature," a course focusing on gay and lesbian literature, discussed the roles of gays and lesbians in society with famed playwright Mart Crowley, the author of "The Boys in the Band," the landmark play that transformed gay theater.

Traveling more than 1,500 miles from sunny Los Angeles, Crowley's trip to snow-covered Lincoln had a twofold mission.

World-renowned for opening theater doors to honest depictions of openly gay characters, Crowley attended a production of his own play, "For Reasons that Remain Unclear" at the Wagon Train Project Thursday night. It is only

the third time his play has been produced since its first production in 1993. Crowley also is visiting the University of Nebraska-Lincoln to discuss his works with students, staff and faculty members.

His book, "3 Plays by Mart Crowley," is a collection that brings together his most powerful works: "The Boys in the Band" (1968); "A Breeze from the Gulf" (1973); and the previously unpublished, "For Reasons that Remain Unclear" (1993).

Associate English Professor George Wolf said all the students in the class were required to read "The Boys in the Band" and "For Reasons that Remain Unclear" before Crowley arrived.

"It is important to get a sense that works come out of human beings and experiences," Wolf said.

"Writers are the rest of the story and it is important for students to see, realize and experience beyond the pages in a book."

Please see **PLAY** on 3

Diverse history aids new recruiting official

By LINDSAY YOUNG
Assignment Reporter

The new assistant director of minority recruitment won't have to travel far to get to her new job.

Cynthia Gooch, educational specialist in Multicultural Affairs, will move only a couple of blocks from Canfield Administration to the Admissions office.

Peg Blake, director of Admissions, said Gooch will improve recruitment at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

"I don't think we've done as good as job as we need to (with recruitment), and I am very hopeful that with the hiring of Cynthia we will step up and do better," Blake said.

More than 50 people applied for the job, and four were interviewed, said Pat McBride, associate director of Admissions. Current director, Barbara Carrasco-Fechner, is leaving the position to finish graduate school.

The qualities Admissions was looking for included experience at working with minority students, experience in higher education and working with stu-

dents in admissions or orientation, and connections to the communities where UNL recruits, McBride said.

"(Gooch) has had significant experience in working with students in a variety of roles," said Blake.

Blake said Gooch was ideal for the position thanks to her connections with the Omaha minority community and her dedication to the success of minorities in higher education. Gooch lived and worked in Omaha for several years before coming to Lincoln.

McBride said Gooch will develop a cohesive plan for recruiting minorities to UNL.

Gooch and Admissions must connect with community leaders in groups such as the Omaha Urban League, the Girls Club and Boys Club and centers such as the Hispanic Community Center in Lincoln.

"We have to get out and have good relations with them," Blake said.

Different populations have different needs from a university, she said.

American Indians who live on reservations face difficult cultural changes coming to a university, Blake said. It is important to connect them

with the resources they need.

It also is important to distinguish between minorities from rural and urban areas, because they have different needs and wants, she said.

"In life, I think it is easier to lump people together than look at them as individuals," Blake said.

If recruiting students from Chicago, for example, Gooch must help them feel Lincoln is a welcoming place for minority students from large cities.

But for students from Nebraska's smaller towns and reservations, recruiting efforts are different. Students worry about being lost in the crowd or about fitting in at a larger institution.

Admissions has to look at each individual's needs or wants, Blake said.

In many ways recruiting minorities is not different from recruiting white students, she said. But because UNL and Nebraska are predominantly white, some minorities from larger cities outside of Nebraska or in Omaha find it intimidating, Blake said.

Blake believes Gooch will face these challenges successfully.

"I really believe that she will make a difference."