



SPORTS

It's very superstitious ...

Some might call them crazy, but the Nebraska women's softball team members' superstitions are a perfect fit for the No. 7 team in the nation. **PAGE 7**



A & E

Clay and canvas

Against all odds - including location and population - Lincoln's art community has learned to thrive through cooperation. **BACK PAGE**

TUESDAY

April 14, 1998

SUNNY CAME HOME ... AND THEN LEFT
Cloudy, high 63. Chance of rain tonight, low 45.

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City Council votes to change zoning

By **RYAN BRAUER**
Staff Reporter



Land near Wilderness Park might be a mall after all.

After two hours of testimony from an overflow crowd Monday, the Lincoln City Council voted 7-0 to pass annexation and rezoning measures for land near Wilderness Park.

The measures will extend the land available for corporate development in Lincoln by annexing 125 acres west of South 14th Street and Pine Lake Road.

Measures also will rezone the area from agricultural land use to 1-3, the official title given to a restricted industrial-employment district.

About 75 opponents to the plan who wore stickers reading "Plan a sustainable Wilderness Park" spent all morning outside the County-City Building protesting the proposed development of the Wilderness Park area.

City Councilman Jeff Fortenberry said the council realized the sensitivity of the issue and was not surprised by the community response.

"It's a very hard issue," he said. "You try to look for a win-win situation, but sometimes concessions must be made."

Fortenberry said he was impressed with the show of support by the opposition and the passion with which it delivered its arguments.

"I think they accomplished something," he said. "We are very close to closing a deal to purchase a 17-acre buffer zone in response to their testimony."

Kent Seacrest, a Lincoln attorney representing potential developers of the Wilderness Park area, said developers own 17.27 acres of

land between Wilderness Park and the annexation that they intend to offer as a buffer zone for the protection of the park.

City Councilman Curt Donaldson said resolving the buffer-zone issue was one key to the outcome of the vote.

"Despite all the urging to delay," he said, "the extra two weeks allowed us to resolve the two key issues: the buffer zone and flood control."

Residents from both the Malone neighborhood and Lincoln's Historic Haymarket District said they were concerned about effects of development on the Salt Creek flood storage area.

Mike Morosin, former president of the Malone Neighborhood Association, said he felt development of the area would lead to flooding in his neighborhood.

"Many old neighborhoods in Lincoln will be at peril," he said.

Donaldson said the City Council agreed to prevent flood-storage loss.

"If they fill in one place, they'll expand it at another," he said.

Sarah Shaw, a University of Nebraska-Lincoln sophomore environmental studies major and member of the campus group Ecology Now!, said her group and other opponents to Wilderness Park-area development thought going into the meeting the City Council would approve the measures.

"We feel the City Council didn't heed the warnings presented in our testimony," she

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Man faces charges of first-degree murder

By **JOSH FUNK**
Senior Reporter

A homeless man was charged Monday with first-degree murder in connection with the death of an elderly Lincoln woman last week.

Austin Dehaas, arrested in Kimball Sunday, faces charges of first-degree murder and the use of a weapon to commit a felony for the stabbing death of 61-year-old Barbara Reid, Lincoln Police said.

Police contacted the Kimball police department Sunday after obtaining an arrest warrant and learning that Dehaas had friends in the area, said John Colburn, Lancaster County chief deputy attorney.

Kimball police said they arrested Dehaas on the Lincoln warrant at a friend's house there.

Reid was found dead in her apartment at 1900 F St. Saturday by her son-in-law Douglas Hicks, according to the arrest warrant affidavit.

Hicks told police he went to the apartment to check on Reid because he and his wife had been unable to contact Reid for several days.

After a locksmith let him in, Hicks found Reid lying in her bed with the covers pulled over her face.

When Hicks looked at her face he saw she was dead and called police.

Lincoln Police Sgt. Jim Spanel, the investigating officer, found Reid wearing only a blood-stained sweatshirt with an apparent stab wound in the middle of her chest.

Preliminary autopsy results Monday morning found that the chest stab wound was the cause of death, Colburn said.

Police are unsure of the exact time of death, but complete autopsy results should be available in a few weeks, Colburn said.

Upon further investigation, a knife believed to be the murder weapon was

Please see **MURDER** on 3



LANE HICKENBOTTOM/DN

THE FACE OF SEN. DIANNA SCHIMEK of Lincoln is reflected in a breast cancer awareness picture that hangs in her office. Schimek, a longtime proponent of better breast cancer treatment availability, was diagnosed with breast cancer in December.

Senator says cancer does not slow her

By **BRIAN CARLSON**
Senior Reporter

One of the Legislature's leading proponents of better access to cancer treatment has spent the 1998 session adjusting to the disease herself.

And for Sen. DiAnna Schimek of Lincoln, the demands of legislative service coupled with the stresses of breast cancer have posed not an insurmountable challenge, but an opportunity to refocus her life.

As the 1998 Legislature concludes its business today, Schimek will have completed her first legislative

Schimek: Disease provided opportunity to refocus, prioritize

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