



## SPORTS

### Is it Crouch?

Or is it Newcombe? NU coach Frank Solich wouldn't say who would start Saturday at quarterback against UAB. **PAGE 11**



## A & E

### Hands up

Palm reader Mrs. Roberts has a lot of secrets, including yours. Based in Omaha, the palm reader is spending her week at the state fair. **PAGE 9**

## FRIDAY

September 4, 1998

**FAIR WEATHER FRIENDS**  
Sunny, high 92. Fair tonight, low 63.

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## 12-year plan maps UNL's future design

*Changes will affect Alpha Chi Omega Sorority, which will be relocated*

By **JESSICA FARGEN**  
Staff writer

A more pedestrian-friendly campus, more scholarly and prominent entrances and long, grassy malls will be the UNL of the future, under a 12-year plan announced Thursday.

Next year UNL will start work on the plan, unveiled at Nebraska East Union, which adds three large parking garages on its outskirts and

blocks most traffic from its core.

A grassy corridor will extend from Memorial Stadium to the Beadle Center, cutting traffic off at 14<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> streets. That traffic will be routed to Antelope Valley Parkway, a thoroughfare running along campus' east side.

The university will tear down two greek houses — Alpha Chi Omega Sorority and vacant Sigma Alpha Mu Fraternity — on the southern corners of 16<sup>th</sup> and Vine streets to extend

Memorial Mall.

A 50-foot wooded area will surround East Campus on all but the west side.

A new recreation center will be built there; people will be able to access the campus from 48<sup>th</sup> Street.

Russell Butler, vice president of EDAAW, Inc., a Denver architecture firm, told about 15 students and five administrators Thursday night what the University of Nebraska-Lincoln probably will look like in the future.

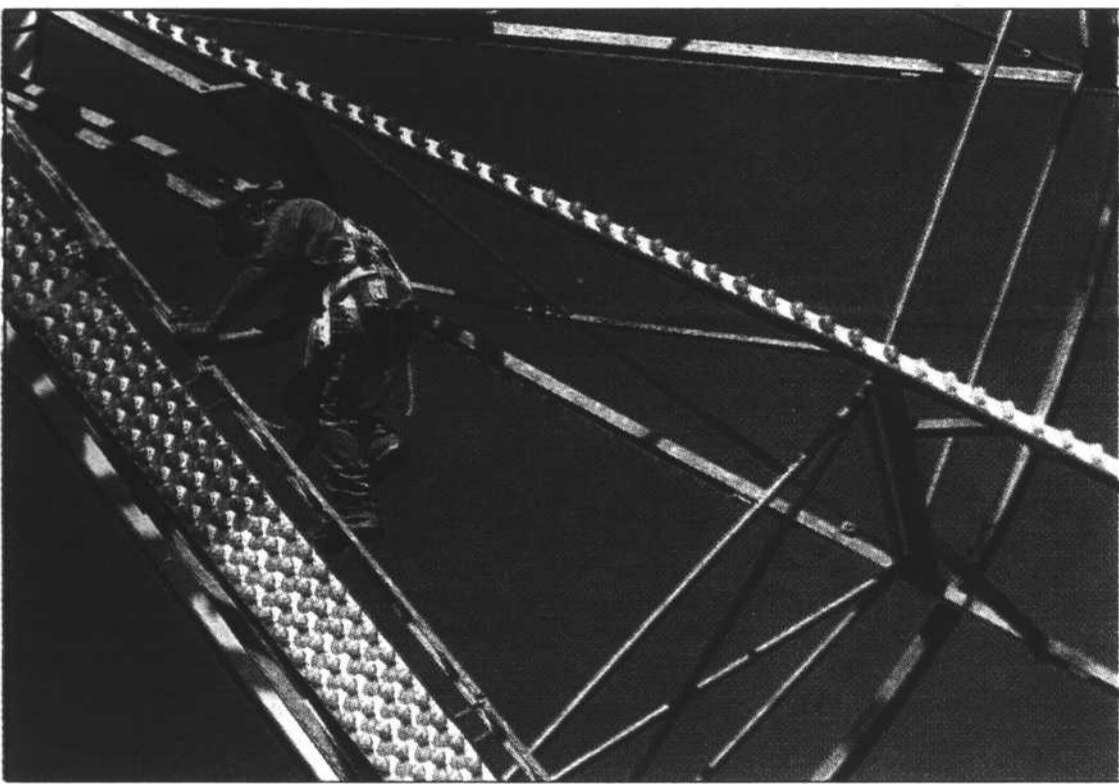
Students, administrators and architects have been working on the Preliminary Master Plan since April.

The plan will go to the NU Board of Regents in October.

Construction is scheduled to start in 1999 and be completed in six-year phases until 2011, and then beyond.

Please see **PLAN** on 7

### Save Ferris



SANDY SUMMERS/DN

**JAMES SOPER** of the Mighty Bluegrass Shows climbs the Ferris wheel for routine maintenance at the Nebraska State Fair on Thursday afternoon. Midway rides run every day from 1 p.m. to midnight.

## Farmers in crisis, state official says

■ He says that good weather, excess supply and the Freedom to Farm Act are the causes.

By **BRIAN CARLSON**  
Staff writer

As farmers prepare for this fall's harvest, bumper crops throughout Nebraska and the Great Plains and an economic crisis in Asia are conspiring to sharply reduce farm incomes in 1998.

Low commodity prices — for many products, the lowest in a decade — are the result of the simple law of supply and demand.

Good weather and the end of government programs restricting product supply have created a surplus not matched by demand.

That demand has been dented by economic tensions in Asia, where consumers have less disposable income and a reduced ability to buy imports because of currency devaluation.

While supply and demand may be simple, the problems faced by farmers and policy-makers this fall are not. The values of the top six commodities are down 11-35 percent from 1996-97, and farm incomes are expected to sustain a 40 percent drop, according to the Nebraska Department of Agriculture.

"We are in a crisis," said Larry Sitzman, Agriculture Department director.

The department reported the latest corn prices at about \$1.60 per bushel, the lowest since 1988. Soybean prices, in the \$4.80 range, are at their lowest since 1987.

Roy Frederick, a professor of agricultural economics at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, said the excess supply of many commodities can be attributed to good weather and agricultural reforms enacted in the federal Freedom to Farm Act of 1996.

The federal legislation ended government programs that paid farmers to keep some of their land

out of production in an attempt to reduce product supply. Farmers now produce the combination of goods they believe to be most profitable.

The Freedom to Farm Act was designed to institute a more laissez-faire farm policy and allow the market to dictate a sustainable level of production, Frederick said.

"But the other side of the coin is that we all recognize that food is one of the necessities of life, and farmers haven't been able to control their own destiny," he said.

Under the current market structure, he said, farmers have incentives to choose the commodities that have been most profitable of late and plant them fence row to fence row.

Farmers have no incentive to restrict production, Frederick said. The market is so large, he said, that one farmer can't affect a commodity's price by producing less. But a farmer who did so would pay the price by having less product to sell at the market.

The result is excess commodity supply. And farmers' productivity has increased in recent years, Frederick said.

"We would be in worse shape if we did not have really good crops," he said.

Sitzman was able to see firsthand some of Asia's economic problems during a recent trip to the Far East with Gov. Ben Nelson.

In places such as China and Japan, consumer uneasiness and a desire for self-sufficiency have prevented American farmers from increasing their market share, he said.

"In the case of Japan, the ships are coming this way, and nothing is going back Japan's way," he said.

The result of these conditions and the crop surplus, he said, is that "the ability of our farmers to compete has diminished and is almost nonexistent" unless farmers contracted in advance for better prices.

He warned that the farm problems could lead to a "ripple effect" that could eventually hurt the larger economy.

Please see **CRISIS** on 7

## Pepsi fund rewards community service

By **IEVA AUGSTUMS**  
Staff writer

One freshman UNL program is fostering the next generation of community service.

Thirty-nine "outstanding, devoted, energetic" students are receiving \$1,000 from UNL and Pepsi Cola to continue students' volunteering efforts on campus.

Kristen Steltzer, assistant director of honors recruitment, said the Pepsi Service Scholar Scholarship recognizes students for their past and present work in the community.

"The scholarship creates a trusteeship between students and the community," Steltzer said.

The program was created as part of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's \$24.2 million contract with Pepsi.

Steltzer said the non-renewable \$1,000 freshman scholarship is offered only to those graduating from Nebraska high schools.

“  
This scholarship is not honors exclusive.  
It's very inclusive.”

**KRISTEN STELTZER**  
assistant director of honors recruitment

"The scholarship is not honors exclusive," Steltzer said. "It's very inclusive. It's a diverse group of students."

For the next 12 years, 40 students per year will receive the scholarship.

Steltzer said Pepsi scholars are selected on the basis of their history and involvement with the community, as well as leadership and academic abilities.

Diane Podolske, Student Involvement assistant director, said the program will teach students the "who, what, where, when, why, how" of community service involvement.

"Through volunteer and leadership skills we are helping students

give back to the community," said Podolske, who is the coordinator of the Pepsi Scholar class.

Podolske said students will be trained as community ambassadors and will provide services for the Lincoln community.

Sherri Biernbaum, freshman business management major and a Pepsi Scholar, said she is looking forward to going into the community and making a difference.

"The satisfaction you get from knowing you've helped someone's life is so strong," Biernbaum said. "We're about making other people's

Please see **PEPSI** on 7