



Mac in Milwaukee

Reporters Andrew Strnad and James Nicas and photographer Matt Miller see the Mark McGwire experience firsthand. PAGE 6



One-man show

Robert Shapiro has gone from working in the mail room at a talent agency to owning a production company. He will lecture at UNL on Friday. PAGE 9

September 23, 1998

A TOUCH OF GRAY

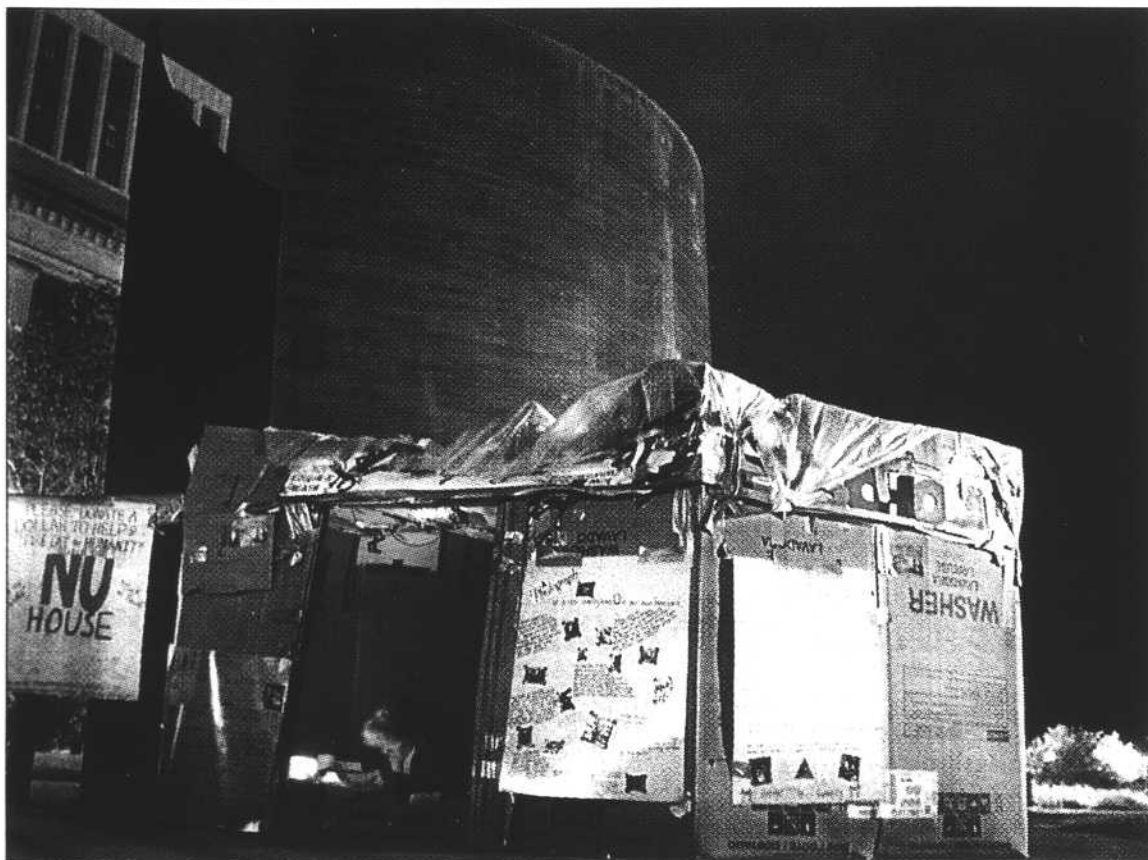
Mostly cloudy, rainy, high 70. Cloudy tonight, low 53.

Daily Nebraskan

VOL. 98

COVERING THE UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA-LINCOLN SINCE 1901

NO. 23



SANDY SUMMERS/DN

JAMIE GRAYSON, a junior sociology major, studies Spanish by candlelight late Monday night in Habitat for Humanity's Shantytown. Grayson, who volunteered her time for the annual fund-raiser, said she feels strongly about the Habitat for Humanity. "I'm only here for an hour," Grayson said. "I can't imagine living the rest of my life this way."

Project serves as reminder

Habitat for Humanity asks for \$1 donation from each UNL student to reach its \$25,000 goal.

BY ANGELIA HUNTLEY Staff writer

As students walk between Andrews and Burnett halls this week, a small, cardboard dwelling captures their attention. The inside of the structure smelled of wet cardboard Monday as cold wind gusted through and water dripped from the ceiling. The occupants aren't permanent residents, but they hope the shanty is a visual reminder of how

relatively easy most people's lives are. The cardboard home, called Shantytown, was constructed by Habitat for Humanity volunteers this weekend to promote awareness and to raise money toward the building of real houses. "We are not focusing on homelessness, (but) people really live like this," said Chris Stone, Habitat for Humanity spokeswoman. Habitat for Humanity's campus branch is a volunteer organization that helps people in need of housing, raises money for projects and creates tutoring and mentoring programs for homeowner families. "We do not know what it is like to live this way," said Jason Dubs, president of the campus branch. "We just want people to think about it."

Last year's Shantytown raised \$1,300, Dubs said, but volunteers hope to raise significantly more this year - about \$25,000. "A buck to build" is the motto and goal for the Shantytown, and Stone said she hopes students take the motto to heart. The money will go toward building a house for a needy family. "I hope students will look (at the shanty) and think about the impact they could make," she said. "If every student gave just one dollar, we could finish the house." The UNL house will be built by volunteers and members of the family who will live in it when the necessary money is raised. The new owners will be

Please see SHANTY on 2

Union Board votes to limit some areas

BY JESSICA FARGEN Staff writer

The Nebraska Union Board voted unanimously Tuesday night to restrict non-students from the new northwest study lounge after 6:30 p.m. Sunday through Thursday. Nebraska Unions Director Daryl Swanson proposed the scaled-down version Tuesday night after board members failed to vote Sept. 8 on a policy that would have restricted non-students from the Crib, northwest lounge and the unfinished basement billiard room and television lounge. During a 45-minute discussion, four people spoke in favor of the policy saying non-students have made threats to union staff, are distracting to students who are studying and make some students feel unsafe. One student spoke in opposition to the policy. Saad Alavi, who has been the Nebraska Union night manager for three years, said he has been threatened many times by non-students. Swanson asked Alavi, "Have you ever feared for your own personal safety?" "Many times," Alavi said. "I've had people in my face, threatening me, calling me names." Alavi said the policy would make his job safer and easier by containing non-students in a smaller area at night, when staff is limited. But Peter Murphy, a graduate student in philosophy, said he opposed the policy because students could be just as disruptive as non-students. He said the policy would not make the lounge a more study-friendly environment. It's not students who are drinking alcohol in the union, though, Alavi said. They're not the ones vomiting, threatening people and disrupting the climate of the union, he said.

"I don't think this policy goes far enough. I think it should encompass the whole union."

AL KOENIG history professor

Swanson said students empathetic to homeless people who could be displaced to other parts of the union because of the policy can donate money to Daywatch, a homeless day shelter, in collection boxes that will be placed in the union. Al Koenig, a history professor who teaches at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and the University of Nebraska at Omaha, said, "I don't think this policy goes far enough. I think it should encompass the whole union." The union should not be a "day-care center for free-loaders," he said. Koenig also said "mumbling" transients made it hard for students to study, which he said was a function of the union they paid for. "If you try and study in the union, it's damn near impossible," he said. Swanson said a safe, comfortable study area is something students need. The newly renovated lounge is more conducive to studying with its bright lights, soft chairs and its television that is shut off at 6:30 p.m. Swanson said he chose the study lounge as the restricted area because the billiard room and the Crib can sometimes be noisy with different events scheduled throughout the week. Signs will be posted by Sunday

Please see UNION on 2

ASUN considers eliminating party system in elections

BY IEVA AUGSTUMS Staff writer



University of Nebraska-Lincoln students may not have to envision a COMMITment to an ASUN party system this year. ASUN President Sara Russell said student government is looking at ways to make elected positions more accessible to students, including the possibility of eliminating the current party system. "We need to ensure student

government is doing its best to see students' needs are met as best as possible," Russell said. "Redefining the election party system process is one way." Last year during ASUN elections, the question was raised to both parties on whether or not student government leaders should be elected by party affiliation. Russell said her party, COMMIT, was for dissolving the party

"Without the party system student government would be more inclusive. People besides the greek system would be involved."

CHRISTINA ANHALT sophomore environmental sociology major

system. The VISION party was for keeping it. "Last year it was an all-or-nothing thing, but I don't know if that's the answer this year," Russell said. "Maybe there's a middle ground."

ASUN Electoral Commission Director Ryan Fuchs agreed. Fuchs said there has been criticism that ASUN is dominated by the greek system. Finding some way to make ASUN elections open to all students is one of the Electoral Commission's goals, he said. Fuchs said ASUN is conducting surveys asking students to comment on how they feel about the

Please see ASUN on 3