



### Korving out a name

NU middle blocker Megan Korver survived a little-known NCAA rule and mononucleosis to lead the Huskers this season. **PAGE 7**



### Rockin' Runza

Big Band Monday Night invites musicians every week to sit in with the band on the top floor of Rock 'n Roll Runza. **PAGE 9**

September 30, 1998

**RAINY DAYS AND WEDNESDAYS ALWAYS GET ME DOWN**  
Breezy, showers, high 70. Clearer tonight, low 45.

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MATT MILLER/DN

**WARD CONNERLY** waits behind the curtains during his introduction before his speech Tuesday evening in the Nebraska Union. Connerly spoke about ending racial preferences in the college admission processes.

## Speaker says race preferences harm

BY BRIAN CARLSON  
Staff writer

To progress beyond its history of racial prejudice and discrimination, the United States must end racial preferences that are morally wrong and self-defeating, Ward Connerly told a UNL audience of more than 400 Tuesday.

Connerly, who led the 1996 effort to pass California's Proposition 209, which ended affirmative action programs in state government and universities, spoke briefly and then engaged in an hourlong question-and-answer session that was at times contentious.

Connerly, who is black, said during his speech in the Nebraska Union ballroom that racial preferences violate the constitutional principle of equality under the law while fueling, rather than extinguishing, racial tensions.

"I believe the 'race matters' philosophy is wrong," he said. "It is morally wrong, and it runs against the core of the American culture of equality we have embraced."

Connerly acknowledged that race is still important in society and that prejudice still exists. But government pro-

grams granting preferences on the basis of race rather than academic achievement, leadership and character are against the best interests of blacks and other minorities, he said.

Racial preferences stigmatize successful minorities, leading to the presumption that, "if you're a woman or a black, you can't do it on your own," he said. And they engender racial bitterness because of resentment at the advantages provided by affirmative action, he said.

As a regent at the University of California, Connerly said he saw that racial preferences allowed minorities to be admitted ahead of whites with better academic records. Race was not, as affirmative action supporters claimed, one of many factors considered, he said.

"It was not a little itty-bitty factor," he said. "It is the factor."

"Diversity should not be an excuse for discrimination," he said. "That's what's happening in many of our institutions, but we don't have the stomach to face it."

Several students challenged Connerly, saying affirma-

Please see **CONNERLY** on 6

## Retention rate of freshmen up

BY LINDSAY YOUNG  
Senior staff writer

Top administrators are pleased that more than four out of five freshmen who arrived on campus last year decided to return for their sophomore year.

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln increased its freshman retention rate by about two percentage points from 78.7 percent in the fall of 1996 to 80.6 percent in 1997, officials have announced.

The retention rate reflects the number of first-time, full-time freshmen who stay at UNL and enroll as sophomores. The rates include only those students who take classes in Lincoln.

Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs James Griesen attributed the new rate to increased admissions standards.

The standards, which began in the 1997-98 academic year, require freshman applicants who graduate from high school in 1997 or after to have a composite ACT of 20 or higher or a combined SAT of 950 or higher, or to rank in the upper half of their graduating class to be guaranteed admission.

After the standards were put in place, the number of freshmen decreased. But those numbers are being made up with an increasing number of students returning for their sophomore year, Griesen said.

In fall 1995, 3,984 first-time

freshmen set foot on campus. That number decreased in fall 1996 and fell to 3,256 in fall 1997, when the new standards were implemented.

The number of first-time students increased this fall to 3,416.

In Chancellor James Moeser's State of the University address in August, Moeser set a goal of having more than 80 percent of freshmen return for their sophomore year.

"It just so happens I didn't set the goal high enough," Moeser said.

One of the factors in the university's drop in the U.S. News and World Report rankings was its

retention rate, he said.

The rate reported for the ranking was around 75 percent.

That number reflects freshmen taking UNL classes any-

where, such

as online, not just in Lincoln.

According to statistics used by the U.S. News rankings, peer institutions' retention rates were near UNL's recent rate of 80.6 percent.

In his August address, Moeser said an increase in freshman retention would be a result of an all-university push to increase academic rigor.

He said Tuesday the newest retention figures will improve the university's reputation, and prove UNL, which recently dropped to the third tier in the U.S. News rankings, is comparable to more prestigious second-tier schools.

The rates in the report are an

Please see **RETAIN** on 6

### Staying put

UNL's freshman retention rates for students on the Lincoln campuses have risen nearly three percentage points since 1995.

Year	Total freshmen	# returning as sophs.	% returning
95-96	3,984	3,099	77.8
96-97	3,715	2,923	78.7
97-98	3,256	2,624	80.6

Source: Institutional Research and Planning UNL Online Factbook

JON FRANK/DN

## Groups promote breast cancer awareness

BY TODD ANDERSON  
Senior staff writer

Teaching women not to fear the results of breast cancer examinations is the goal of activities scheduled throughout the state in October.

Starting today, the American Cancer Society and university organizations are kicking off Breast Cancer Awareness month with speakers and informational sessions on breast cancer detection and treatment.

Pat Tetreault, sexuality education coordinator at the University Health Center, said detection and early treatment are essential to saving the lives of one in eight women who develop the deadly disease.

Mammograms work for early detection, she said, but for college-age women, self-examination is sufficient for detecting a lump on the breast.

Tetreault said only a small number of young women who have a history of breast cancer in

their families receive mammogram testing.

According to the American Cancer Society, women between the ages 20 and 40 have only a 0.49 percent chance of developing breast cancer, compared with 4.67 percent of women over 50.

Tetreault said she encourages young women to develop a habit of conducting self-examinations so they know how to recognize changes in their bodies that might indicate future problems.

She said the health aides in University of Nebraska-Lincoln residence halls post and distribute information instructing women how to look for lumps in their breasts.

Dayna Karnawitter, cancer control generalist for the American Cancer Society, said the society is sponsoring a statewide campaign to encourage women over 40 to receive regular mammogram examinations.

About 250 business-sponsored volunteers will each call five women who are friends to recommend examination on Oct. 6, she said.

Karnawitter said studies show more women receive mammograms if the tests are recom-

mended by a friend, yet only one-third of women who should have a mammogram do.

Women's Center director Jan Deeds said many women are reluctant to test themselves regularly for fear of finding results that indicate the existence of a tumor.

But even if lumps are found, she said, women have a greater rate of success in treating the disease.

Deeds said her office has materials and handouts providing information about self-examination and cancer prevention.

Tolandra Coleman, program coordinator for the Women's Center's October health series, said a speaker will give a presentation Oct. 26 at 1:30 p.m. in the Nebraska Union.

Karnawitter said the cancer society plans to sponsor speakers throughout the community, while distributing pamphlets and shower cards with facts about breast cancer.

For more information, contact the American Cancer Association at (402) 489-0339, or the Women's Center at (402) 472-2597.

■ One woman in eight will develop breast cancer in her lifetime.

■ Older women and women whose families have a history of breast cancer are more likely to develop the disease.

■ Breast cancer is the most common cancer among women, and a small number of men are diagnosed with the disease.

■ Early detection is the key to treatment of the disease - the five-year survival rate for women who receive timely treatment is 97 percent.

■ More white women are diagnosed with breast cancer than black women, but more black women die of the disease than white women.

■ The American Cancer Society recommends females between ages of 20 and 30 conduct routine self-examinations to detect breast cancer early. Women over the age of 40 should receive mammograms annually.

Source: American Cancer Society