



## SPORTS

### Holy Christo!

Monte Christo went from way down on the depth chart to NU's savior against Missouri. Hey, he might even get to start Saturday. **PAGE 7**



## A & E

### Mad opera

School of Music Professor Randall Snyder is crazy about opera. Friday, his own opera, "Divine Madness," premieres in Kimball Hall. **PAGE 9**

# WEDNESDAY

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**MUDDY WATERS**

Showers likely, high 67. Storms tonight, low 53.

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**BROOKE PETERSON** has acquired many ribbons in the last two horse shows she has entered. The sophomore speech pathology from Brookings, S.D., has shown horses for about nine years.

## Champion rider rounds up three titles

By **ERIC RINEER**  
Staff writer

For Brooke Peterson, life has been a real kick lately.

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln sophomore from Brookings, S.D., has been traveling across the country with her Arabian saddle-bred horse collecting trophies and ribbons at every show.

Though Peterson has been riding horses for the past 10 years, she's been on a roll lately, winning three national championships. Her family and friends are in awe, while Peterson just takes it in stride.

In September, Peterson took her horse, Conway, to the 1998 National Showhorse Finals in Springfield, Ill.

Peterson cleaned house, winning the national side saddle, country English pleasure riding and grand national championship classes in the ladies' 18-34 division.

Besides conquering Springfield, Peterson also finished in the top 10 at the United States Nationals last weekend in Kentucky.

"It was exciting," she said. "The victories made it feel like everything I worked for paid off."

But the finals in Springfield were especially important, she said, because her father, Dick Peterson, won some of his own prizes — country pleasure driving championship and reserve championship in driving.

"He's always been a huge inspiration," she said.

Peterson remembers the support her

father showed the day she came home from her first horse camp with her sister, Michelle.

After telling their father they had "fallen in love with horses," Dick Peterson bought the family its first horse.

Dick Peterson, who also has competed since his childhood, said he was impressed at how quickly his daughter has matured.

"She's matured by learning to win and to lose," he said. "She takes both with a smile on her face."

Peterson said she credits her success to her hard work throughout the year. She said she spends most of her weekends practicing with her horse and trainers in Missouri.

"It takes a lot of determination and commitment," she said. "It's a gradual process."

Please see **RIDER** on 6

## Program connects minority students, staff

By **KIM SWEET**  
Staff writer

A new UNL organization that connects students to minority professional leaders and faculty members exists thanks in part to the efforts of one student.

The program, called Network, was initiated by Assistant Director for Minority Recruitment Cynthia Gooch after a student came to her concerned about the lack of academic organizations for minorities in specific areas of study at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

After junior accounting major Jerome Prince came to Gooch because

the College of Business Administration didn't have any professional organizations for students of color, the two went to work.

They joined forces with Nancy Stara, associate vice chancellor for academic affairs, and came up with the new group for colleges that lacked professional organizations for minorities.

The purpose of Network is to connect students of color with professional minority leaders and faculty members in CBA, the College of Arts and Sciences and the College of Journalism and Mass Communications, Gooch said.

But it also will bring students from the colleges together eventually to

form other academic organizations for minorities within each of the three colleges, such as an organization for black journalists or Latino accountants.

American Indian, Latino, Asian American and black business leaders have been recruited for the program so far, Gooch said.

Robert Campos, founder and president of Campos Construction in Omaha, is a business leader participating in the program.

Being involved in Network is a way for Campos to continue doing what he has been doing for years — mentoring young people and connecting them with jobs, he said.

"I can offer assistance to students in college and high school to find what

it is that they may be looking for," Campos said. "I want to help out in that effect."

The student whose idea sparked the new program, Prince, said he is excited an organization now exists that fills the previous gap. Not only will it benefit minorities who currently study at UNL, but the organization also can attract prospective students of color to the university with its support system, he said.

"I think whenever a student of color is considering attending a predominantly white university, they tend to look to whether they can see other students of color," Prince said. "It is another opportunity to see students of color."

Election '98

## Candidates: Education a top priority

By **TODD ANDERSON**  
Senior staff writer

As discussion of state spending has taken center stage on the Nov. 3 ballot, both Democratic and Republican candidates said they are committed to guaranteeing quality education in Nebraska.

And University of Nebraska-Lincoln Chancellor James Moeser said he is confident both candidates will prove to be sincere about their dedication to excellent education.

Republican gubernatorial candidate Mike Johanns and Democratic candidate Bill Hoppner both said building on an already excellent state university system would be top priorities if they are elected.

Johanns said he is excited by what he sees when he visits NU campuses.

"I believe we have an outstanding university system, and I think we need to be committed to making it better generation after generation," he said.

Hoppner also said Nebraska has a great university system to develop into a source of growth for the state.

"We need to have a university that excels in areas that are important to the growth of our state and opportunities for our kids," Hoppner said.

He said a discussion is needed to identify the areas in which the NU system should aim for excellence.

"I think Nebraskans will be willing to support that sort of goal," he said.

According to UNL's 1998-1999 general operating budget report, more than 28 percent of \$609 million in revenue for the University of Nebraska-Lincoln comes directly from state funding.

With Initiative 413 before voters in less than a week, Moeser said funding for UNL is a central issue for the university and for all Nebraskans.

The proposed constitutional amendment would limit state revenue by a rate adjusted for inflation and population growth if approved by voters on Nov. 3.

The University of Nebraska has estimated more than \$20 million would be cut from the NU budget if the proposed lid is approved, and more recent reports estimate more than \$30 million in lost revenue for the NU system.

But Moeser said no one is sure how severe the fiscal damage to the state and the university would be.

Please see **CAMPAIGN** on 6

### REMINDER

**Absentee ballots by mail for Nebraska counties must be requested in writing from the election commissioner by 4 p.m. Friday.**