

# Glenn begins second voyage

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) John Glenn renewed his place in space history Thursday -- "one American legend" among a crew of heroes.

"Boy, enjoying the show," he said, in orbit again at long last. "This is beautiful."

The first American to orbit the Earth became the world's oldest space-man when the 77-year-old Glenn and six crewmates young enough to be his children lifted off aboard the space shuttle Discovery at 2:19 p.m. EST.

Repeating the words of his first flight, he said, "It's still a trite old statement: Zero-g and I feel fine."

"Let the record show that John has a smile on his face, and it goes from one ear to the other one, and we haven't been able to remove it yet," said shuttle commander Curtis Brown, Jr.

It was a space sequel with all the right stuff. Discovery's departure a mere 19½ minutes late was practically routine compared with Glenn's oft-postponed, pioneering flight.

The launch was marred when an 18-by-22-inch drag-chute door fell from the shuttle's tail and struck an engine moments before liftoff. But NASA said it will pose no risk to the crew when the shuttle returns to Earth on Nov. 7 after the nine-day flight.

In taking the second space flight of his life, Glenn realized a dream that he never thought possible. His return to

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CURTIS BROWN, JR.  
shuttle commander

space as the first orbiting geriatric test subject captured the American imagination, so much that thousands of people jammed the area to see the retiring senator off.

Bill Clinton, the first president to witness a shuttle liftoff, pronounced Glenn's flight as "a great day for America and a great day for our senior citizens."

As the low man on Discovery's crew, the Democratic senator from Ohio sat in the middle seat of the windowless bottom deck for launch, staring at a row of metal lockers. He wore a baggy orange suit with a U.S. flag stitched to his left shoulder, a contrast to his sleek silver suit from his Mercury mission.

Soon after reaching orbit, however, Glenn unstrapped himself, and for the first time ever, floated free and weightless. Back in 1962, he never got out of the seat of his cramped Friendship 7 Mercury capsule during his five-hour, three-orbit flight and had little time for sightseeing.

"First report is great," Glenn said, 340 miles up and three hours into his Discovery flight.

"I don't know what happens on down the line, but today is beautiful and great. And Hawaii is ... I just can't even describe it."

Discovery's liftoff and nerve-racking 8½-minute climb to orbit capped a long campaign by the World War II combat pilot to snag a space shuttle seat.

The four-term senator began pestering NASA for a ride more than two years ago. He was struck by the similarities between aging and the effects of weightlessness -- flimsy bones, flabby muscles, fitful sleep -- and offered himself as a test subject.

His zealous request kept echoing through the halls of NASA headquarters in Washington: "Why not me?"

Glenn went through all the astronaut physicals as well as an extra battery of tests that included an angiogram. The space agency finally gave the thumbs-up in January, and Glenn promptly began part-time shuttle training.

# Food banks to hold Kick-in-a-Can drive

BY CRYSTIE NICHOLS  
Staff writer

As the season of giving nears, the Omaha and Lincoln food banks are starting their collection drives Saturday at UNL with their 15th annual Kick-in-a-Can food drive.

Around Memorial Stadium during Saturday's football game against Texas, fans can donate nonperishable items, such as peanut butter, tuna, canned fruit, dry milk and pasta, or they can make a cash donation.

"This is a tremendous help for both the Omaha and Lincoln food banks," said Jim Tardy, the development manager for the Omaha Food Bank.

Food donations will be used in Omaha and Lincoln. Money will be used statewide.

Nancy Evans, operations manager at the Lincoln Food Bank, said that last year, 4,677 pounds of food and about \$2,700 were donated in the event. She hopes this year's efforts exceeds past years'.

The Alpha Phi Alpha and Alpha Phi Omega service fraternities are helping to sponsor the event. They hope to increase the number by at least 25 percent over last year.

"We appreciate the support for the last 15 years," said John Sharkey, president of Alpha Phi Alpha. "We also hope to continue this worthy cause. It is a great help to both food banks."

The Lincoln Food Bank, however, is warning people that a telemarketing

firm is using its name without authorization to solicit cash donations.

Unidentified callers are asking people to give money for the food bank to buy food baskets. Once a commitment is made to contribute, they offer a volunteer to come to the individual and pick up the donation immediately.

The food bank warns it is not, and has never, using a professional telemarketing firm or volunteers to make telephone solicitations on its behalf. In addition, the food bank distributes donated food to other charities, which then provide direct assistance to people in need.

"We want the public to know we did not authorize this," said Wende Baker, executive director of the Lincoln Food Bank. "We want to warn the public so they are not misled."

The University Bookstore also is sponsoring a promotion until Saturday. For people donating canned goods, a 20 percent discount will be offered on "Club Red" items. This offer is available at both City and East campus University Bookstore locations.

The Lincoln Food Bank is launching its traditional holiday appeal Nov. 23. A grocery sack will be inserted in the Lincoln Journal Star to be filled and returned to one of 25 participating grocers serving as collection sites.

A few of those sites are: Hy-Vee, 5020 N. 27th St.; Super Saver, 2662 Cornhusker Highway; Save Mart, 2727 N. 11th St.; and Russ's Market, 1709 Washington St.

# Group to hold sleep-out for homeless

BY KENDALL SWENSON  
Staff writer

A campus group is trying to ensure Lincoln's homeless get a little more attention this Friday.

Phi Sigma Pi, a new honors fraternity at UNL, will be holding a 24-hour sleep-out for the homeless this weekend. The group's goal is to collect donations and create awareness for Lincoln's population who has no place to live.

The event will be held in front of the Capitol from 4 p.m. Friday to 4 p.m. Saturday.

"We want to make a difference, said Christine Edney, vice president of Phi Sigma Pi. "There are a lot of people who will benefit from this."

The fraternity is hoping to raise other donations, such as blankets and used clothes, from people passing the Capitol building. The donations will be sent to the People's City Mission, 110 Q St.

But collecting physical donations is only part of the sleep-out's purpose.

Organizers said they also want to draw attention to Lincoln's homeless problem.

"By doing the event on the Capitol

steps, we hope to make it more than just a university event," Edney said. "We want to create some awareness from the Lincoln community and really make a statement."

The sleep-out will be the first major event of the UNL chapter of Phi Sigma Pi fraternity.

The chapter is a part of a national fraternity based in Pennsylvania, which comprises 77 chapters, all dedicated to scholarship and service, Edney said.

"We are trying to get things going," said Chrissy Laubenze, Phi Sigma Pi's president. "Our fraternity should be able to build from this event."

# Grants let UNL search for supercomputer

BY JESSICA FARGEN  
Staff writer

With about \$200,000 in its pocket, UNL is shopping for a supercomputer thanks to a grant the university will receive over the next three years.

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln will match funds from the three-year, \$750,000 grant, said Dale Finkelson, network engineer for Information Services.

The computer, which the university will purchase with its first-year grant funds, will be housed in the Research Computing Center in the Walter Scott Engineering Building next semester.

The grant, from the National Science Foundation's Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research will increase the speed and productivity of UNL researchers by giving them a more powerful computer that can handle extremely complex information or projects involving huge

amounts of data, Finkelson said.

"It's merely an opportunity for us from EPSCoR to actually go out and buy a machine that would be very difficult for any one faculty person to go purchase themselves," Finkelson said.

"Information Services has never ever had a machine quite like this to offer to the campus like this before."

Finkelson said UNL's purchase of a research computer is not directly related to its hook-up next year to the high-speed Internet 2, which also serves as a research aid for universities nationwide.

Ashok Samal, UNL's interim project coordinator for the computing center, said the increased memory of the supercomputer will be helpful.

"This will provide people who have a heavy computation need to make those kinds of research goals," said Samal, an associate professor in computer science engineering. "They will have access to something locally instead of going over the network."

Currently, UNL researchers must

go through a research computer at the University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign to do work with large amounts of information. Finkelson said researchers will still have to use Illinois' supercomputer for extra-large projects.

The grant also will pay for a local coordinator who will help researchers identify their needs and determine the best way to use the computer.

In order to use the supercomputer, researchers will have to submit proposals to a committee that limits access to it based on the availability of its power, Finkelson said.

Royce Ballinger, associate vice chancellor for research, said the \$750,000 grant is UNL's share of a three-year, \$3 million contract with EPSCoR, which also is giving money to the University of Nebraska at Omaha and Creighton University.

The cost of upgrading the computer is about \$100,000 a year, which the grant will cover for two years, Ballinger said.

# UNL graduate, chemist gives university \$200,000

BY CRYSTIE NICHOLS  
Staff writer

The man whose work in chemistry led to the development of high-temperature fabrics Lycra and Nomex has made a gift of \$200,000 to the University of Nebraska Foundation.

James Hewett's donation will be used to fund future UNL chemists with the Hewett Distinguished Professorship of Chemistry in the University of Nebraska-Lincoln College of Arts and Sciences.

Hewett received his bachelor's degree from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and his master's from Purdue University in West Lafayette, Ind.

Brian Foster, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, said Hewett's gift demonstrates the strength and quality of the department.

"This gift is a significant contribution that recognizes the distinguished faculty of this department," he said.

The Hewett Distinguished Professorship of Chemistry is bestowed upon a professor, ultimately selected by UNL Chancellor James Moeser. The professor does not need to be a current UNL faculty member.

The professorship will last for five years before it will be reviewed and possibly renewed. The recipient of the fellowship will be announced during the next academic year.

"I received a great education at NU that enabled me to become a competent researcher in my field," Hewett said in a statement.

"However, I received that education through the generosity of the taxpayers and the state of Nebraska. I felt that I should pay back my debt while contributing to the education of current and future students."



## Forged bills lead to arrest

A Lincoln man was caught passing counterfeit \$10 bills at a convenience store Wednesday night.

Just before 9 p.m., a man and a woman entered the Kwik Shop, 2710 W St., and bought items with a \$10 bill, Lincoln Police Sgt. Todd Beam said.

The two were laughing when they left the store and when they returned a few minutes later.

Again they bought a few items with a \$10 bill and left the store laughing. The clerk then took a closer look at the money they had spent and decided the bills were counterfeit.

The man and woman returned to the Kwik Shop around 11:20 p.m. and tried to spend another \$10 bill.

The clerk refused the bill, saying it was counterfeit, and called police.

Lincoln police stopped the 23-year-old man near 48th Street and Leighton Avenue and arrested him for possess-

ing forged items.

## Teen falls off of moving car

A Lincoln teen-ager fell off the back of a car and sustained head injuries at 8:45 a.m. Wednesday morning.

The 16-year-old boy was sitting on the trunk of a friend's car as it drove north on 23rd Street, Beam said.

The 17-year-old driver swerved between R and S streets to avoid hitting the curb, and his rider fell off the trunk.

The victim hit his head on the pavement and was taken to BryanLGH West Medical Center in serious condition, though he was listed in fair condition Thursday night.

Both the driver and the victim could be cited for clinging to a moving vehicle, but no tickets had been issued Thursday.

Compiled by senior staff writer Josh Funk

## Daily Nebraskan

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