



SPORTS

Fut, meet bol

The Nebraska soccer team starts the Big 12 Tournament this weekend, looking for its second title in three years. **PAGE 9**



A & E

Causing a commotion

STOMP finds its way into Lincoln for a second time this weekend with five appearances at the Lied Center for Performing Arts. **PAGE 12**

FRIDAY

November 6, 1998

White Night

Mostly cloudy, high 43. Light snow tonight, low 33.

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Commission hears Peru State options

■ Consultants present costs of moving the state college, renovating the campus, or closing it.

By **KIM SWEET**
Staff writer

The cost of moving Peru State College to Nebraska City will cost more than \$100 million, according to a report given to the state's college commission.

The fate of Peru State College remains in the hands of the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education after months of uncertainty about whether the college should remain in Peru.

The commission heard from consultants Thursday who have been researching the costs of keeping the college in Peru, eliminating it completely or moving it to a different city.

The issue was brought forward during the last legislative session when a bill was introduced to provide funds to renovate the college. An opposing bill was introduced to move the college to Nebraska City.

Dennis Jones, president of the National Center for Higher Education Management, and Dan Paulien, president of Paulien and Associates, a Denver architecture firm, presented the costs as well as the pros and cons of both scenarios.

They said it would cost about \$96 million to move the campus and \$27 million to renovate the existing campus.

State Sen. Floyd Vrtiska of Table Rock, who introduced the bill last year to renovate the campus, said the estimates for moving the college were much higher than the proponents of moving had planned on.

The State College Board of Trustees, which voted for the move to

Nebraska City, estimated the cost to move the campus would be about \$24 million, Vrtiska said.

While considering the costs of the move, the commission also must consider how Peru State College fills an important niche in the southeastern Nebraska region, Jones said.

The college provides a place for those students who feel uncomfortable attending a larger university, such as the University of Nebraska-Lincoln or the University of Nebraska at Omaha, said Jerome Martin, interim vice president of the college.

"We have a wide range of individuals," Martin said. "There are some people who feel uncomfortable around lots of people and some who are first-generation college students."

"With this environment of working with students, we create a system that helps people grow, develop and build confidence," he said.

If Peru State College is moved or closed, consultants have come up with an extensive network of learning centers where students could take distance education classes.

But Vrtiska said the centers would not fill the gap left in the southeast region if Peru State left or was closed.

The state would be taking away an important part of Peru and the surrounding area's already fragile economy, Vrtiska said.

The commissioners will have to decide on an option they want to recommend to the governor and the Legislature by Dec. 1.

After considering their recommendation, the Legislature will take action on the decision during the next session.

Members of the commission will accept feedback to the consultant's report a week from today during a special video conference. People wishing to comment can attend sites in Lincoln, Omaha, Hastings, Scottsbluff and Chadron.

A lever of success



DAWN DIETRICH/DN

DOUG GLASSHOFF, A UNL secondary education sophomore, teeter-totter Thursday afternoon in the greenspace outside of the Nebraska Union. The See-Saw-A-Thon, sponsored by Alpha Gamma Sigma Fraternity and Gamma Phi Beta Sorority, is raising money for the Laura Cockson Memorial Scholarship Fund.

Case tried at NU law college

By **JESSICA FARGEN**
Staff writer

The teaching that normally goes on in the Welpton Courtroom on East Campus took on a more somber tone this week as NU law students silently watched the first jury trial at the college in roughly a decade.

Law students, as well as witnesses, attorneys and 24-year-old defendant Maurice Phillips, charged with manslaughter and use of a deadly weapon to commit a felony, were awaiting a verdict Thursday night.

The Lancaster County District Court trial, which started Monday at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, propels students into a real life situation they may face in the future as lawyers, said Glenda Pierce, assistant dean of the law college.

"Instead of just reading a definition of what hearsay is," Pierce said, "they'll hear a question asked, perhaps, and then they'll hear an objection made based on that particular rule of evidence."

"It gives life to the rules of evidence they are learning."

Another thing students won't see in the classroom is a man's future laid on the line by lawyers, a

judge and jury.

That man, Phillips, was involved in an altercation in April 1996 in which he was stabbed in the shoulder by Arthur Ewoldt of Lincoln, said presiding Sarpy County District Judge Ronald Reagan.

Ewoldt was assaulted by multiple people, including Phillips, in a second altercation later that night, the prosecution said.

During that altercation, a cement block was allegedly dropped on Ewoldt, which resulted in injuries, leading to a coma. Ewoldt died in December 1996 as a result of injuries from the altercation, Reagan said.

Phillips was charged in spring 1997 with the manslaughter and weapon charges, which each carry a sentence of one to 20 years in prison and a \$25,000 fine.

At least three of the individuals involved in the altercation that

resulted in Ewoldt's death testified against him. Two witnesses plea-bargained to lesser charges; one was granted immunity.

The college courtroom is a valuable but underused resource for students and judges, Pierce said.

Judges are invited to use the courtroom, Pierce said, but most are reluctant to leave their home court-rooms.

At the same time, the college prefers shorter trials because the courtroom doubles as a classroom, causing logistical problems in having long trials there, she said.

But Gary Peterson, a second-year law student, said he understood why many lawyers and judges dragged their feet about holding a trial in the college. Attorneys may feel the college courtroom would be disruptive to the jury, which would

Please see **COURT** on 8

Questions arise over Lincoln's next mayor

By **ADAM KLINKER**
Staff writer

With Mayor Mike Johanns now a governor-elect, a big question facing the city of Lincoln is: Who will be boss?

According to the city charter, officials elected to higher office have until final election certification to vacate their current office.

In addition to the secretary of state's and election commissioner's certification, the state Legislature must also approve election results, said Curt Donaldson, chairman of the Lincoln City Council.

The secretary of state's and elec-

Election '98

tion commissioner's official certification of Tuesday's election must be completed within the next 38 days, meaning Johanns could leave office by Dec. 14 at the latest.

However, the next Legislature will not meet until January, thereby delaying their certification.

Donaldson said he did not perceive a problem and said most likely, Johanns will resign as soon as the early certification is announced.

After Johanns leaves office, the

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