



SPORTS

Vaulting up

Nicole Wilkinson competed in the Nebraska women's gymnastics team's meet Monday night at the Bob Devaney Sports Center. **PAGE 7**



A & E

Moving to mariachi

In Omaha, where the Hispanic culture continues to bloom, mariachi music is seeing a strong revival. **PAGE 9**

TUESDAY

February 23, 1999

SNOW TIME LIKE THE PRESENT

Snow, high 30. Cloudy and cold tonight, low 20.

Daily Nebraskan

VOL. 98

COVERING THE UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA-LINCOLN SINCE 1901

NO. 107

Women, minorities gaining ground

■ **White men aren't taking up as much space in UNL's faculty, but the battle for equality is still far from over, many professors say.**

By **SHANE ANTHONY**
Staff writer

By taking an active approach, UNL has hired more women and minority faculty members, officials said, but some non-white faculty members still recognize the need for action.

According to data from Institutional Research and Planning, the number of

non-white professors, associate professors and assistant professors increased from 106 to 114 in 1998, constituting 9.87 percent of UNL's 1,196 tenure-track faculty members.

That compares favorably with 92 minority tenure-track faculty members in 1992, which constituted 8.04 percent of the faculty.

The number of women in tenure-track positions increased from 253 to

294 in 1998, compared to 224 in 1992.

According to Evelyn Jacobson, associate vice chancellor for academic affairs, a conscientious effort was made to reach a wider pool of people.

"People are being much more proactive," she said.

Search committees, for example, were actively seeking applicants instead of waiting for potential employees to respond, she said.

Miguel Carranza, an associate professor of sociology and ethnic studies, is the chairman of a committee looking for

Please see **FACULTY** on 6

Diversifying UNL

Most administrators say the University of Nebraska-Lincoln has made progress toward its goal of increasing diversity in hiring.

Totals of tenure/tenure-track faculty

	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
Ethnic Minority Total	8.43%	8.38%	8.17%	8.95%	8.46%	9.53%
Female Total	19.86%	21.07%	22.09%	23.07%	22.59%	24.58%

Numbers include assistant professors, associate professors and professors.

Minority defined as: Asian, black, Hispanic, American Indian or a non-U.S. resident.

Source: UNL

JON FRANK/DN



MINDY KELLOGG AND HER MOTHER, KRISTI GROOTHUIS, wait for the immune globulin treatment to finish at BryanLGH East. Kellogg had to go to the hospital every day for four to five hours for a week for this treatment to fight the parvovirus that is attacking her bone marrow.

THE FIGHT OF HER LIFE

Story by Josh Funk

Photos by Matt Miller

Mindy Kellogg should be worrying about finding a date for her senior prom, but she isn't.

Instead, she is worrying about losing her hair.

If these latest treatments do not take hold, the 17-year-old may soon have to undergo chemotherapy in preparation for a bone marrow transplant.

Doctors do not know exactly why Kellogg's body cannot replenish the vital elements of the blood flowing through her veins.

A couple of weeks ago, Kellogg tested positive for the parvovirus, which is attacking her bone marrow.

Without regular transfusions, Kellogg's blood platelet count hovers around 15,000 to 20,000, which is about 130,000 below normal.

Kellogg is normally tired and bruises very easily. She could bleed to death from a nosebleed.

According to doctors' orders, Kellogg has been effectively under house arrest since late December except for

Please see **MINDY** on 2

Legislature



Legislators debate future of Peru State

By **JESSICA FARGEN**
Senior staff writer

The fate of Peru State College was once again the subject of arguments in the Legislature on Monday as senators heard testimony on a bill that would close the 132-year-old college.

LB714, sponsored by Lincoln Sen. Ron Raikes, would close the college by Jan. 1, 2004. To ease the transition, the Southeast Nebraska Higher Education Task Force would be created.

Raikes told the Education Committee that the task force would identify the educational needs of the region, set strategies to meet those needs and report to the Legislature by December of this year.

Raikes introduced the bill in response to what he saw as poor judgment on behalf of the Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education. A report by the commission last year identified three options for Peru: Improve it, relocate it to Nebraska City or close it.

The commission recommended to improve the college at a state cost of about \$20 million. But Raikes relayed a series of Peru statistics that painted a picture of a struggling, inefficient college. Raikes favored the third option — closing the college.

"This would be a big and difficult step, but I think it is suggested by the future we face," Raikes said. "Reasonable people with reasonable goals believe that it is sensible to consider that."

The freshman-to-sophomore dropout rate is about 40 percent at Peru compared to a 35 percent average for Wayne State College. The five-year graduation rate is 22 percent at Peru, compared with 35 percent at Wayne, Raikes said.

Raikes pointed to other colleges in the area such as Southeast Community College and the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

But Table Rock Sen. Floyd Vrtiska, a staunch Peru supporter, said Peru filled a need for nontraditional students, students who work a lot and those who prefer a smaller campus.

"I think it's more naive to think that if Peru closed, these kids

“*I think it's more naive to think that if Peru closed these kids would go to UNL.*”

SEN. FLOYD VRTISKA

Please see **PERU** on 6