

## Minority research focus of conference

BY VERONICA DAEHN  
Staff writer

The 1999 Ethnic Minority Research Symposium will be held today in the Nebraska Union from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Presentations of student-written academic papers will be the focus of this annual event, said Keith Parker, sociology professor and special assistant for minority affairs to the dean of Graduate Studies.

Besides University of Nebraska-Lincoln students, students from three other universities will also present papers. Other schools included in the symposium are Texas A&M University in College Station, the University of Texas at Corpus Christi and New Mexico Highlands University in

Las Vegas, N.M.

Parker said it was an interdisciplinary event and topics would not be limited to minorities. Don Helmuth, associate vice chancellor for research, will offer opening remarks at 9 a.m., and Nancy Rapoport, dean of the College of Law, will provide the keynote address at 12:30 p.m.

The symposium is free and open to the public and will conclude at 4:30 p.m. with the presentation of awards by Merlin Lawson, dean of Graduate Studies.

Awards will be given to the students presenting papers for the time and effort they put into researching and writing them.

Parker said the symposium was important.

"It allows students to share research with a local audience."

## Internationally known reporter speaks at UNL

CNN's Peter Arnett addresses Kosovo, Iraq, Vietnam

BY SARAH BAKER  
Senior editor

After a career spanning more than 35 years, CNN international correspondent Peter Arnett knows a lot about life and a lot about news.

But he knows even more about what it takes to be a journalist who, many times, has almost lost his own life for the sake of keeping the public informed.

Arnett, who was at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln on Wednesday, gave the final presentation in this year's E.N. Thompson Forum on World Issues lecture series. Arnett's speech centered on his experiences in numerous wars — including Vietnam, Iraq and Bosnia — and his views on the current conflict in Kosovo.

The presentation will be broadcast a second time on C-SPAN this Saturday between 7 p.m. and 10 p.m. This is the first time an E.N. Thompson Forum lecture has ever been picked up for national showing.

Arnett's comments on Kosovo dominated most of his speech.

"The press often helps politicians make the right decisions," Arnett said. "The press is back on track. They can be proud of their work in the Balkans."

Arnett said that in times of war, and even in times of political conflict and unrest, the press had a responsibility to report the outrages.

"At such a time as this, the facts are more important than the passion," he said.

Arnett said in an interview before the speech that he thought the press was doing an "incredibly bold" job in Kosovo.

"They are telling the story in a moving way, and the Americans are always sympathetic to the underdog," he said. "The press has brought international attention to it, so there is considerable support for NATO's campaign."

But, Arnett added, there are also great limitations on the flow of information journalists are getting in Kosovo and also a concern that if a ground war ensues, journalists may be shut out completely.

He also criticized the actions of NATO and the Clinton administration's withholding information from the press and, consequently, the American public.

"The Serbs know what the hell is happening, just as the Iraqis knew what was happening in Kuwait," he said. "NATO may be withholding information that may be potentially embarrassing to us."

After his considerable reporting experience in the Vietnam War without the use of modern technology, Arnett said the addition of live television during a war changed things.

"(The Kosovo conflict) has no comparison to Vietnam at all," he said. "The dynamic of every war is going to be different than the previous one. If there would have been live TV during Vietnam, it would have been a much shorter war."

"But this is also not as direct a threat to national security," he said. "The government admits there is no national interest, it's humanitarian interest."

During 1991, Arnett was the only Western reporter based in Iraq for Operation Desert Storm, and also one of the only reporters to interview Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein.

Will Norton, dean of the College of Journalism and Mass Communications, said Arnett was one of the most notorious and well-known journalists of his time.

"By the age of 18, he was already sued for libel," Norton said, as part of his introductory speech. "He is an internationally known correspondent who is always in the hot spots. He has uncommon courage; he has uncommon character."

Arnett's involvement in the recent

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PETER ARNETT  
CNN correspondent

controversy surrounding CNN's retracted report of nerve gas used on American defectors during the Vietnam War was not discussed in his speech or in the questions that followed his comments.

In Associated Press reports, Arnett, who reported parts of the nerve gas story on CNN, said he was brought in late on the report and was not responsible for any of the previous reporting or interviews concerning the story.

Arnett, unlike two other CNN employees, was not fired from the network, but did receive a reprimand.

He said that if the company sent him, he would eventually cover the Kosovo conflict.

"There is nothing I could do at this point to tip the balance," he said. "I am not Superman, unfortunately."

Arnett said that because of his career, he had an outlet to get past the "trauma" he sometimes experienced when reporting on the battlefield.

"Journalists let it all off because we have a catharsis every night," he said. "We get the news out."

Arnett had a simple answer to what lesson stuck with him most through his reporting career.

"I learned that the job is to get the news and pictures back," he said. "Not to play soldier yourself."

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## Shakespeare's Rose opened to public

■ The site where the 16th century theater once stood was saved from construction 10 years ago.

LONDON (AP) — The site of the Rose Theater, where William Shakespeare honed his dramatic art, opened to paying visitors Wednesday. But it looked nothing like the stunning replica painstakingly recreated for the Academy Award-winning film "Shakespeare in Love."

For now, it's just a dark, damp basement under an 11-story office building on the South Bank of the river Thames.

But it's the atmosphere that counts. "This is the holy of holies of English theater," lawmaker Simon Hughes said

at a Tuesday preview.

Hughes was among the campaigners who linked arms 10 years ago with the elite of Britain's acting profession to stop bulldozers clearing away the Rose foundations after they were discovered during construction work.

The office building went up, but only after the public uproar forced the government to cough up \$1.6 million for the developers to suspend the structure on girders. That gave the Rose's relics a space where they could be preserved and monitored.

Now, the theater's supporters must wait until the office building ends its commercial life and is pulled down — expected in fewer than 10 years — to allow full excavation of the site.

The open-air Rose was built in 1587

and demolished after 1606 when the Globe theater surpassed it in popularity. The height of its commercial success came in the 1590s, with a repertory of plays by Shakespeare, Christopher Marlowe and Thomas Kyd.

A replica of the Globe was reopened in 1997 at the initiative of the late American actor Sam Wanamaker. It now puts on a slate of plays.

For now, visitors to the Rose will merely be able to stand on a viewing platform, built where the galleries lay on the theater's east side.

"The remains, which had been buried in soggy Thames mud for 400 years, would have turned to dust if they had been left exposed to the air," said Jon Greenfield, an architect who worked to reconstruct the Globe.

## Meth-dealing penalty to increase

METH from page 1

Brashear, resulting in the final version of the bill.

One of the provisions under the original bill would have created a penalty of 20 years to life in prison for someone caught dealing a pound or more of meth. Under the final bill, that person would receive five to 50 years in prison with a five-year mandatory minimum.

Peterson said meth had been a growing problem in Grand Island for several years.

A meth lab was recently found in Grand Island across the street from a grade school, she said.

The number of labs is on the rise in Nebraska, she said. One meth lab was discovered in 1996, compared to the eight found as of October 1998, she said.

Peterson said the gram amount of meth seized by the Nebraska State Patrol has increased substantially in the last two years.

"Meth abuse is a problem," Peterson said. "Abuse of meth is at least as serious, if not more serious, than abuse of cocaine."

The heavily traveled Interstate 80 is a pipeline for the drug through Nebraska, she said. Besides that, she said, it can be manufactured in small, cheap labs just about anywhere.

Athletes and students take it to heighten their awareness, Peterson said, while others take it to lose weight.

The drug, referred to as crank, ice or crystal meth, is an upper, she said. The drug increases a user's heart rate and metabolism, resulting in an "intense feeling of pleasure," she said. But the problems associated with the drug include being awake for days, heart problems and brain damage.

The bill faces two more rounds of debate. Brashear has made the bill his priority for the year, and the bill is part of a crime package supported by Gov. Mike Johanns and Attorney General Don Stenberg.