

Kicking into High Gear

Freshman Christine Latham has turned into a key performer for the No. 4 Nebraska soccer team, following Lindsay Eddleman's footsteps. PAGE 6



Man with a Method

After a tumultuous childhood, Omaha-born Marlon Brando found a way to express himself through art with Method acting. PAGE 12

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A BREAK FROM THE NORM

Windy, partly cloudy, high 73. Windy tonight, low 35.

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IRV OMTVEDT, vice chancellor for the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources at UNL, is retiring after 25 years at the university. During this time he has been instrumental in creating the Beadle Center, development of distance education and helping farmers across the state.

LANE HICKENBOTTOM/DN

Omtvedt will leave legacy after retiring

“It's a real blessing to know that when you get up in the morning, there are exciting things to look forward to.”

IRV OMTVEDT
vice chancellor, Institute of Agriculture
and Natural Resources, UNL

BY KIMBERLY SWEET
Senior staff writer

Irv Omtvedt never thought he'd be a pioneer.

Instead, the Wisconsin native who grew up milking cows on his family farm thought he'd be content to research the animals he fed and took care of every day.

His aspiration during the days he spent cleaning up after cows was to become a college professor in animal genetics.

But Omtvedt's job as vice chancellor for the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources at UNL is much bigger than any professorship he may have dreamed about 40 years ago.

The buildings, people and programs he's brought to the university have spread his influence far beyond what he ever could have imagined.

His job requires him to oversee two colleges at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, the Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture in Curtis, the entire division of agricultural research, 83 extension offices across the state and many other facets of agriculture at UNL and in the NU system.

Of course, Omtvedt isn't complaining.

“It's a real blessing to know that when you get up in the morning, there are exciting things to look forward to,” Omtvedt said. “My goal in the beginning was to make a real difference,

Please see OMTVEDT on 7

Rev. Creech defrocked by church

BY DANE STICKNEY
Staff writer

Within nine hours of the start of the church trial, a jury of 13 United Methodist ministers found the Rev. Jimmy Creech guilty of breaking church law and stripped him of his powers in the church Wednesday.

Creech, who was charged with disobeying church law by performing a same-sex marriage in North Carolina, tried to persuade the jury to not reach a decision in the matter.

The jury deliberated after the 90-minute trial and returned with a unanimous verdict against Creech, who said he was disappointed by their verdict.

“The church has said it will use its power — legal power, spiritual power and financial power — to enforce bigotry. It is a sad day. It is a scandalous day for the United Methodist Church,” Creech said.

The trial marked the second time the church has brought charges against Creech. In 1998, Creech was found not guilty of breaking church law because the jury ruled the statement condemning same-sex marriages was not regarded as church law.

After giving Wednesday's verdict, the jury deliberated again to decide Creech's punishment. It could have chosen a variety of punishments ranging from minor sanctions to banishment from the Methodist Church.

The jury decided to allow Creech to be a member of the Methodist Church but deprived him of any ministerial powers.

Lauren Ekdahl, pastor of Lincoln's Trinity United Methodist Church, said the punishment was inevitable.

“This trial was about disobedience of discipline,” he said. “(Methodist pastors) take an ordination vow saying we will uphold the discipline order of the United Methodist Church. If one of us disobeys that vow, he must be punished.”

Ekdahl said although the basis of the trial appeared to be about same-sex marriages, it was really about the power of church law.

“The only way the church law can be changed is at the national conference, which will be held in May 2000,” he said. “Once it is set, all Methodist pastors must follow the rules. Creech didn't, so he was punished.”

The only thing that can override church law is unified revolution by church officials, but Ekdahl said

Please see CREECH on 6

Student directories to be distributed next week

BY KIMBERLY SWEET
Senior staff writer

Students hoping to have friends' phone numbers at their fingertips will have to wait a little longer this year.

While student directories usually come out the first or second week in November, a mistake that occurred in the printing is prolonging the time it will take to get them into students' hands.

After fixing the mistake and reprinting the directories, the publishing company expects to send them next week, said Gary Voyles, owner of GV

Publications, the company that prints the directories.

The directories will then be delivered to on-campus housing units.

Students who live off-campus can pick up their copies in the Nebraska Union in Room 135, next to the student government office.

The process of putting together the directories begins in the summer, said Judy Anderson, administrative technician in publications and photography.

Phone numbers from living units, names from various student organizations, schedules for sports and office information is compiled before students

come back to school, Anderson said.

When students come back, Registration and Records makes the information current with address updates given to them by students.

The office also processes requests for students who don't want their information to be published, said Robert Reid, associate director of Registration and Records.

This is usually complete by the second Monday in September, Reid said.

When Registration and Records compiles the information, the office sends it on a disk to the publications office. It is eventually sent to the pub-

lishing company, he said.

After sending the information to the publishing company, it takes a month to be published, Voyles said.

The process takes a month because the directory gets the same priority as the publications from other clients, Voyles said.

“About 30 days is typical,” Voyles said. “Nobody gets special treatment at a web press.”

Voyles' company prints directories for about 60 other universities across the country, he said.

The company also has non-university clients.

Students don't pay to receive the directory. Instead, the publishing company sells advertising to cover the printing costs, Voyles said.

The publishing company and the university both make a profit from advertising sold in the directory, Anderson said.

Anderson said she thought the process of putting the student directory out was going as quickly as it could.

“It's going as fast as it can,” Anderson said. “It just depends on how things flow.”

“Sometimes getting information is easy; other times it's like pulling teeth.”