

# Daily Nebraskan

petaluma, part four: the strange plot twist into a DALLAS! mall, ferns and cowboys included In Opinion/4



Renowned artist and activist Maya Angelou takes the podium tonight at the Lied Center In Arts/8



The Huskers' bread-and-butter plays include the vaunted option In SportsThursday/12



## 'Harvard of the Plains': Goal set in UNL blueprint

BY JILL ZEMAN

Once upon a time, the University of Nebraska was the "Harvard of the West."

Since its 1869 founding, its academic reputation has slipped a bit - with UNL recently finding itself in the third tier of U.S. News and World Report's ranking of national universities.

Now, a UNL task force has a projection for the future: returning the university to the academic limelight in which it once basked.

A 2020 Vision: The Future of Research and Graduate Education at UNL, is the blueprint for the next 20 years that was

formulated by the Future Nebraska task force.

The minds behind the report belong to faculty and staff members, administrators and corporate and community representatives.

The group, which was led by former Chancellor James Moeser, churned out a 61-page report that details ways to improve the university, which include maintaining a strong faculty, increasing graduate program standards and bolstering the university's financial status.

Interim Chancellor Harvey Perlman said the report is not as much of a plan as it is a compila-

tion of suggestions.

Perlman said the major value of the report is that it will generate faculty discussion on how to improve the university.

The report is an idea, and it is up to the faculty to decide if and how it will be implemented, he said.

Perlman said he's planning several faculty forums where individuals can voice their opinions and offer criticisms or suggestions about the report.

The report sets forth specific and general goals for the university, he said.

The document mainly focuses on graduate education and

research, but Perlman said undergraduate students and those involved in the humanities should not feel neglected by the report's contents.

"This is not, by any means, a complete vision," he said.

Gail Latta, professor of libraries and member of the task force, said the group aimed to make the report consistent with the heritage of UNL.

The report also lists a number of schools described as the "aspirant family."

These schools include the University of California in Berkeley, University of Michigan in Ann Arbor and the University of

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Shelia Scheideler

Academic Senate president

Iowa in Iowa City.

But not all of these top schools are within the university's striking range, said Shelia Scheideler, Academic Senate president.

Scheideler said the university should set its sights on comparable schools, rather than just the best universities in the country.

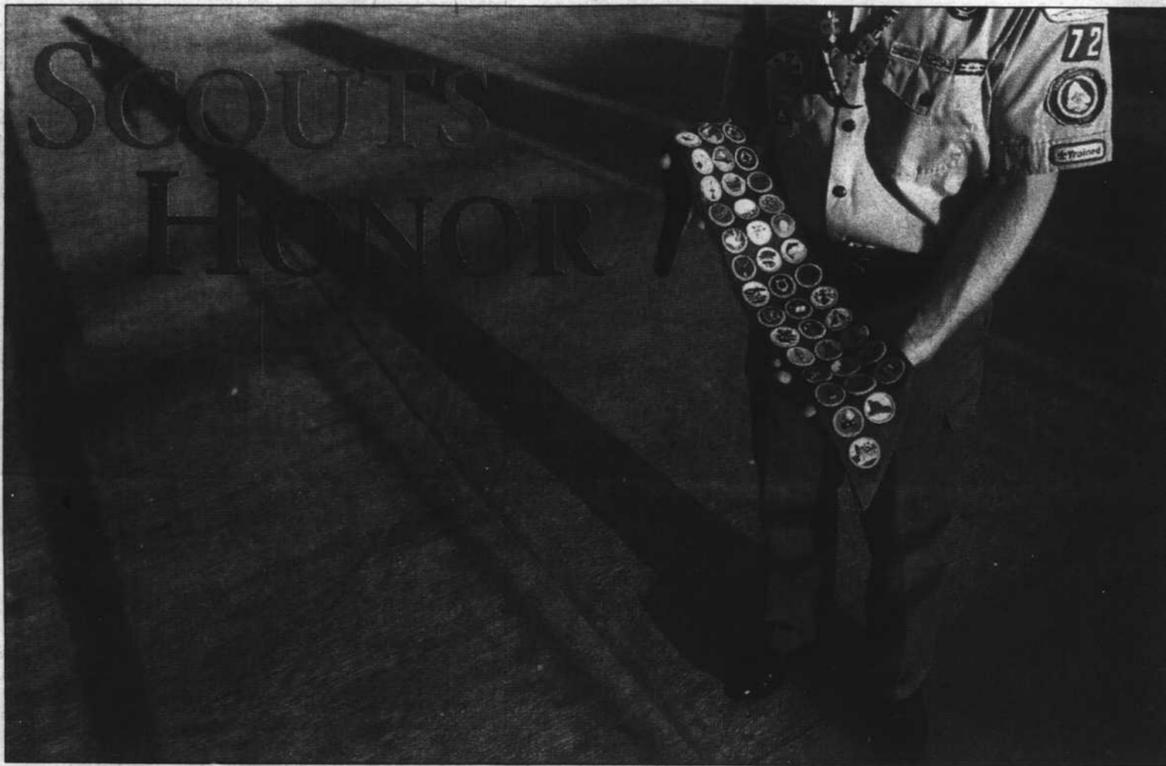
In drawing up an aspiration

list, members of the university should focus on schools that have similar programs and student populations, she said.

"It's good we're challenging ourselves," she said. "But we should strive to be excellent with our peers."

Please see VISION on 5

Craig Reinsch, sophomore civil engineering major and adult leader in Boy Scout Troop 72, displays the merit badge he earned as a Boy Scout.



Josh Wolfe/DN

## Despite gay controversy, Scout support steady

BY GEORGE GREEN

Local groups remain committed to Nebraska Boy Scouts even as national support for the group wanes because of its ban on homosexuals.

"We have not lost anything," said Richard Stockton, field director of the Boy Scouts Cornhusker Council in Lincoln.

Support for the Cornhusker Council, which covers 16 counties in southeast Nebraska, including Lancaster, has not changed, Stockton said.

United Way chapters in Gage and York counties, Nebraska City and Lincoln provide funds for Nebraska Scouts, said Steve Smith, a

Cornhusker Council executive.

The United Way's Lincoln chapter gave \$72,000 to the Boy Scouts in July, said Robin Mahoney, director of fund distribution and planning for the Lincoln United Way.

Sexual orientation is not mentioned under the Lincoln chapter's anti-discrimination policy, so the group did not feel that the Scouts' ban was a problem, Mahoney said.

Mahoney also said discrimination based on sexual orientation is not prohibited under state law.

The U.S. Supreme Court in June upheld the Scouts' ban on acknowledged gays holding leadership positions. Since the ban, about a dozen chapters of the United Way around the country and other groups have revoked funding for the Boy Scouts.

Mahoney said the Nebraska chap-

ters can continue to support local Scouts, while other chapters across the nation withdraw aid because each chapter is autonomous.

Local churches, which sponsor about 75 percent of Scout troops and packs, also have not withdrawn their support for Nebraska Scouts.

Boy Scouts have been meeting for more than 85 years at St. Paul United Methodist Church in downtown Lincoln, and the church will remain a meeting place for Scouts, said the Reverend Fred Synder.

Synder said the Scouts' good work outweighs any controversies that arise.

The church is open to many different groups whose guidelines might be slightly different from the church's, he said.

"We take a broader view of the

organizations," he said.

Troop 54 meets at the Cathedral of the Risen Christ in Lincoln, and the church will remain the troop's gathering place, said Father Robert Tucker, a priest at the church.

"Our troop is supported by the parish and will continue to be," Tucker said.

In Washington on Tuesday, a group of lawmakers in the House of Representatives moved to repeal the Boy Scouts of America's federal charter.

A federal charter awards no special benefits to an organization, but is seen as an honorary designation.

The federal legislation is expected to be easily defeated.

Lincoln Public Schools will continue to allow the Scouts to use its buildings for recruitment and training, said Dave Myers, an assistant to the LPS superintendent.

Please see SCOUTS on 5

## Discrepancies in stories mar Vedral's trial

BY JOSH FUNK

As his rape trial continued Wednesday, suspended NU linebacker Mark Vedral's lawyer continued to challenge the victim's story.

In day two of the highly publicized trial, the victim finished her cross-examination and Vedral's roommates and neighbors added their accounts of the night of the alleged rape.

Several discrepancies surfaced in the testimony of the four men who either lived with Vedral or next door.

The overall picture of the events of the night of May 5 and morning of May 6 is clearer, but the muddled details may be a factor because the case rests on the narrow issue of whether the woman consented.

Defense attorney John Sohl explored several inconsistencies in the woman's statements between the June preliminary hearing, her testimony this week and with other people's testimony.

The woman has testified that she awoke in the early morning of May 6 to find Vedral, whom she did not recognize then, on top of her engaged in sexual intercourse.

If convicted, Vedral could face a maximum penalty of up to 50 years in prison.

The woman turned on a light and caught a glimpse of the man leaving the room. She later identified Vedral in a photo lineup.

But later that night, the woman met Vedral while she was searching the house for Chris Kelsay, with whom she arrived.

The woman testified that she did not know it was Vedral until the prosecution showed her a map of the house's rooms last week.

"I didn't look directly at any individual until I reached the other duplex," the woman said.

The defense acknowledges that Vedral had sex with the woman, but he said she was awake beforehand and consented to the act.

The woman came to Vedral's 1005 Michelle Court home for a graduation party that night with Kelsay.

The woman and Kelsay, who were friends and had dated before, were both at another party earlier that night.

Please see TRIAL on 6

## Local clubs found violating ordinance

An undercover look finds two other businesses failing to follow the no-contact rules.

BY JOSH FUNK

Like a chaperone at a 1950s school dance, the city council got out its ruler to mandate some space between employees and customers in Lincoln businesses.

So the city banned sexual contact in all of its businesses and went after the only strip club not governed by a no-contact provision in state liquor laws.

Mataya's Babydolls Gentlemen's Theatre Club was raided Aug. 11, and several people were cited for violating the ordinance.

Yet the city's two other strip bars, The Night Before Lounge

### Investigation

and The Foxy Lady, offer essentially the same entertainment, and have not been raided under the new ordinance.

Friday and Saturday, the Daily Nebraskan accompanied Mataya's Babydolls security agents on an undercover investigation of sexual contact at The Night Before Lounge and The Foxy Lady.

Multiple violations of the city's "no-contact" ordinance and liquor laws were found at both clubs.

For several years, state liquor laws had banned any physical contact "involving any kissing, or any touching of the breast, buttock or genital areas" in liquor-serving establishments.

"(The Night Before and Foxy Lady) have been covered by similar regulations for several years," Lincoln Police Chief Tom Casady said. "We do investigations from time to time on this," and police have issued citations.

Nebraska Liquor Control Commissioner Frosty Chapman said the rules against contact had been added within the last 10 years.

But unlike the city's "no-contact" ordinance, violating state liquor laws does not carry any criminal penalties.

Liquor law violations only affect the business' liquor license. The business could simply be warned, or, at worst, its license could be revoked.

Violations of the city's ordinance carry a maximum penalty of six months in jail and a \$500 fine.

Under that law, Lincoln

Police conducted an undercover investigation at Mataya's Babydolls, 5620 Cornhusker Hwy., in July and August that culminated with the Aug. 11 raid.

That night, police cited five dancers, six customers and two employees, including owner John Ways Jr., for violating the ordinance.

At an Aug. 25 hearing, in which Ways was challenging the validity of the law, Lincoln Police officers involved in the undercover investigation testified about the contact violations witnessed at Mataya's.

Many of the exact same acts police testified constituted violations of the ordinance at Mataya's were observed Friday and Saturday at the other clubs in town.

Please see CLUBS on 5



ADMIRING THEIR WORK: Members of Alpha Chi Omega Sorority look at the sidewalk art in front of Sigma Chi Fraternity. Several sororities decorated the sidewalk in front of the house for Sigma Chi's Derby Days competition.

Derek Lippincott/DN