

# Final Mini rolls out

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LONDON - The Mini, a boxy pup of a car that wowed the Beatles and came to symbolize the Swinging Sixties, entered automotive history when the last of its 41-year pedigree - No. 5,387,862 - rolled off the production line Wednesday.

Conceived as a thrifty "people's car" during a 1950s fuel crisis, the 10-foot-long Mini earned the devotion of legions of British baby boomers eager to flaunt their individuality.

John Lennon drove a psychedelic red, white and green Mini, fashion designer Mary Quant produced a customized model and Michael Caine used one to heist gold bullion in "The Italian Job."

"In the '60s it was the thing to be seen in," said shop assistant Trina Davies, who together with her husband owns four of the cars. "From the village midwife to the celebrity, it was the car to have. It still is."

Produced in nearly 140 dif-

ferent models, the Mini outlasted several corporate owners before ending its days at the MG Rover Group factory in Longbridge, Birmingham.

MG Rover has retrofitted its plant to build a luxury sedan, the Rover 75, and Germany's BMW will introduce a completely new version of the Mini next year at its factory in nearby Oxford.

But it's the classic Mini that endures as an automotive icon. Turkish-born Alec Issigonis designed the car for what was then the British Motor Corp., after Britain's involvement in the 1956 Suez crisis triggered fears of an oil shortage and the government had begun rationing gasoline.

Issigonis, who was later knighted for his efforts, developed a practical subcompact that could hold four people and their luggage and sold for as little as \$725.

Introduced in 1959, the Mini sold poorly until celebrities such as Peter Sellers, who customized his Mini with wicker trim, began

*"It's cheeky, it's cute, and it just puts a big smile on everybody's face."*

David Hollis  
Mini owner

to give the car an unexpected cachet. With its zippy handling and quirky lines, the Mini soon appealed to Britons regardless of social class.

"It doesn't matter whether you're a dustman or a doctor, the chances are you've driven or ridden in one," said Mini owner David Hollis, 37, of Amblecote in central England.

"It's cheeky, it's cute and it just puts a big smile on everybody's face," said Hollis, who compared driving a Mini to handling a go-cart.

The car's speed earned it three Monte Carlo Rally championships, and at least one version has topped 165 miles per hour.

# Explorer holiday canned

HOLIDAY from page 1

Other options to the tuition increase could be recruiting more out-of-state students or working on retaining current students, Schafer said.

Students should band together on what option they feel is best for them, Schafer said.

"The only way we can affect what the administration does with tuition is if we stand united as students with what we will and won't accept," he said.

The senate defeated a bylaw that would require approval of two-thirds of the senate before ASUN could take a stand on ballot issues in state, local or national elections.

ASUN's bylaws state that the senate needs a 50 percent approval to take a stand on an issue.

# NU: Higher tuition helps boost quality

TUITION from page 1

ASUN President Joel Schafer said he believed students were aware they had to help support a quality institution through their tuition dollars. But he was still concerned about increasing tuition and said he hoped the university would keep tuition in check.

Schafer said another problem would be extra fees students paid outside of tuition.

"A lot of students feel that they're getting nickel-and-dimed to death," he said, referring to extra charges such as student fees, housing and parking.

Howard Lamb, a former state senator, expressed his con-

cern about raising tuition at the forum.

"I hope tuition is not raised so it does restrict accessibility," Lamb said.

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# UNL fills IANR position

IANR from page 1

"What a fine university," he said. "I didn't see one negative thing."

Owens has been at New Mexico State University since 1977. Before that he was the dean and chief administrative officer for the College of Agriculture and Home Economics.

Before going to New Mexico, Owens was an assistant professor of entomology at Iowa State University. He then served one year as an associate professor of entomology at Texas Tech

University.

Owens said he was impressed with the state support the institute received and also with the spirit the student body exhibited.

"It was evident how much they cared about the university," he said.

McBreen said Owens was familiar with the way the university functions and would have no problem making the transition.

Owens said he had no specific plans for his position yet. The first thing he will do is hold meetings with the departments so he can learn more about the programs

and the staff, he said.

The programs are in good shape now, he said, so he doesn't anticipate any major overhauls.

Owens said he also planned to tour the state so he could talk to farmers and ranchers to see what their needs were.

"I'm committed to learning," he said.

Interim Chancellor Harvey Perlman said he was excited about Owens' hiring.

"This is a very significant position for the university," Perlman said. "He brings real talent and experience. We're very lucky."

# Class puts students on red alert

RED from page 1

"This approach... attacks one of the main problems in large universities, the non-communication between disciplines," Miller said.

So far, Griep's students have heard about the color red in poetry and art. Marjorie Mikasen, an artist, and Griep's wife lead the class in an exercise in abstract expressionistic art.

"The real goal is to interest them in as many different aca-

demic disciplines as possible," Griep said.

As a scientist, Griep said, being married to an artist helped balance him out, and he would like his serious chemistry students to round out their lives with art and literature.

"She's definitely more connected with what it's like to be human," he said of his wife.

Judging by the students' in-class discussion and reflective writing, Griep said, the course seemed like a success so far.

"From what they've written, they find the reading material challenging and interesting."

Aaron Pierce, freshman pre-med major, said he sensed a positive response from his classmates.

Pierce likes the course because the "diversity keeps the class interesting."

In spite of the fun, though, "The Color Red" will probably not be offered again.

According to Griep, no honors theme courses have ever been repeated.

# Two tales told over murder

TRIAL from page 1

Bao's lead attorney, Tim Sopinski, countered that the events leading up to the shooting were anything but clear, and police neglected to interview several witnesses until months later.

"Linh Bao was scared ... scared for his wife, scared for his 18-month old daughter and for his 3-year-old daughter," Sopinski said.

"He was scared because three men - three drunk men - who beat him earlier had followed him home."

Both sides agree upon some of the events earlier in the night of the murder.

Bao went to a Vietnamese New Year's party with a friend that night, but he did not know many other people there.

At the party Bao and La got into a fight, though it is unclear what started the disagreement. Then both men were asked to leave the party.

Bao got a ride home to the trailer park, and near his home, Bao spotted La's car following and jumped out.

The defense's and prosecution's versions of the facts about that point in the evening differ.

It is clear that Bao got into another fight with La and two other men on the street near Bao's trailer.

At some point Bao retrieved a handgun from his trailer, which the men struggled over and later the gun was used to shoot La.

The state will continue presenting its case today.

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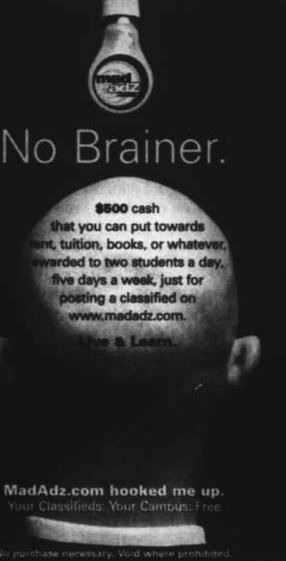
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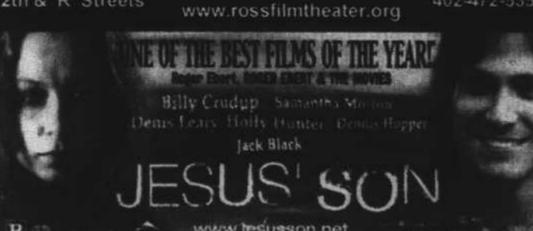
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