

Eric Crouch may have a little less protection from his offensive line this weekend
In Sports Tuesday/10



Columnist Betsy Severin explores whether a vote for initiative 416 is the right choice for Christians
In Opinion/4

The Sheldon's traveling show returns to Lincoln to nourish residents' appetite for art
In Arts/8



ONE LAST PITCH

The Polls



Open: 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.
If you do not know the location of your polling place call the Election Office at 441-7311



Steven Bender/DN

Republican Senate candidate Don Stenberg and his wife, Sue, rally supporters in a Capital Aviation hanger Monday at the end of a two-day state tour. Fellow Republicans State Treasurer Dave Heineman, U.S. Sen. Chuck Hagel and Gov. Mike Johanns campaigned with Stenberg to attract voters for today's election.

Stenberg says he'll support Bush, Republicans in Washington, D.C.

BY JOSH FUNK

On his last day on the campaign trail, Don Stenberg and fellow Republicans compared this year's race to Sen. Chuck Hagel's come-from-behind victory in 1996.

Much like Hagel, Stenberg has trailed former Gov. Ben Nelson throughout the U.S. Senate race. Hagel came back to beat Nelson by 14 points.

At a Monday afternoon rally inside a Capital Aviation hanger, Hagel, Stenberg, Gov. Mike Johanns and state Treasurer Dave Heineman encouraged Lincoln voters to send an all-Republican team to Washington.

"I'm sure Don wants to outdo that 14-point (margin), but we just need one more vote than the other guy," said Hagel, who has campaigned extensively with Stenberg this fall.

Before the crowd, Nebraska's attorney general acknowledged Lancaster County as a Democratic stronghold in the state, but he urged supporters to round up as many votes as possible.

"If we can keep the margin close (in Lancaster County), then the 3rd District will carry us to victory," Stenberg said after having just flown in from western Nebraska as part of a two-day tour of the state.

During the campaign and

"If we can keep the margin close (in Lancaster County), then the 3rd District will carry us to victory."

Don Stenberg
Republican Senate candidate

again Monday, Stenberg emphasized his team approach to government and promised to align himself with Hagel and presidential candidate George

Please see **STENBERG** on 3



David Clasen/DN

Ben Nelson greets Margaret Wolf, a Lincoln resident, at 13th and O streets on Monday afternoon. Nelson was trying to see as many people as possible during his last-minute campaigning for today's election.

Nelson confident of win, promises he will be an independent voice

BY BRIAN CARLSON

Former Gov. Ben Nelson spent the last day before Election Day promising voters he would be an independent voice in the Senate.

Nelson, the Democrat, is facing Republican Attorney General Don Stenberg in today's election. On Monday afternoon, he appeared at the Wells Fargo Center in downtown Lincoln. He stood in the cold and rain to speak with reporters and ask passersby for their votes.

"John Wooden, the old UCLA basketball coach, is a good friend of mine," Nelson said in an interview. "He told me once

that when he was getting his team ready to play, he never talked about winning or losing. He talked about giving maximum effort and not holding back.

"I'm confident that I've given my maximum effort. It's in the hands of the people tomorrow."

But Nelson, who led by 12 percentage points in the most recent Omaha World-Herald poll, predicted victory.

"I think tomorrow I'm going to win," he said. "But I'm not overconfident. I'm not taking anything for granted."

Nelson appeared earlier Monday in Grand Island, and he

"People can posture all they want. I guess they'll know tomorrow."

Ben Nelson
Democratic Senate candidate

was scheduled to visit Omaha Monday night.

In his final pitches to voters, he said he talked about his independent approach, discussed the issues and asked people for

Please see **NELSON** on 3

Plan approved to control floodplains

Neighborhoods east of City Campus will be save from floodwaters; traffic will be diverted around UNL.

BY JOSH FUNK

The City Council voted unanimously Monday to adopt a 20-year traffic and floodwater plan that will reshape the heart of Lincoln.

After several years and hundreds of public meetings, the Antelope Valley project was adopted into the city's long-term comprehensive plan.

All six council members present commended the work that went into the Antelope Valley plan and called it the best compromise of many different interests. Councilwoman Cindy Johnson

City Council

was absent.

"I believe this to be an outstanding plan that accomplishes multiple objectives," Councilman Jeff Fortenberry said. "This ensures that as the areas on the outside (of Lincoln) grow, we don't leave our downtown behind."

The city will move ahead with final design planning for the project's first stages.

The plan also must be approved by the two other Joint Antelope Valley Authority partners before work can begin. The other partners are the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and the Lower Platte South Natural Resources District.

The plan will create a six-lane road along 19th Street from K to Q streets. The road will snake east

between the Beadle Center and Malone Center and come back west along an expanded Antelope Creek, diverting the bulk of traffic around City Campus.

The expanded Antelope Creek will be able to better accommodate flood waters.

As a result, a large area of the Clinton and Malone neighborhoods and the east edge of City Campus will be removed from the floodplain. Currently any development in the area would have to be built above predicted flood levels as the Beadle Center was, and property owners must carry costly flood insurance.

University of Nebraska-Lincoln officials view the area between Vine, R, 17th and 19th streets as a prime area for expansion once the floodwater project is complete. They envision as many as six new research labs during the

next 30 years for the area, which is now mostly parking lots.

To complete the Antelope Valley project, the city will have to buy several homes, displacing families. Council members said affected families and businesses should be treated with respect and sensitivity.

"These are projects that affect the quality of life, and that affects people who live in the community," Councilwoman Annette McRoy said. But she predicted the project benefits would outweigh the hardships.

Even though council members said they still had some concerns about the details of the plan and a lack of flexibility if there are problems, they agreed it was important to move ahead with the plan.

Please see **COUNCIL** on 3

Perlman seeks input on UNL goal-setting

BY JILL ZEMAN

The wheels are turning in a process that aims to make UNL one of the top schools in the country.

University of Nebraska-Lincoln Interim Chancellor Harvey Perlman reiterated his commitment Monday to the 20/20 Vision report, which sets goals for the university's next 20 years.

Perlman sent an e-mail to faculty and staff members updating them on the progress on the vision statement, which outlines the university's goals, particularly in graduate education and research.

In his e-mail, Perlman said he would share the 20/20 report with the NU Board of Regents and encourage faculty and staff members to implement the report.

The Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources and the senior vice chancellor for Academic Affairs will start a process allowing faculty and staff members to decide how to take action, Perlman said.

Perlman said he had received valuable feedback from deans, department chairpersons and other faculty and staff members about the report.

Through their comments, Perlman said he learned faculty and staff members generally supported the report.

While the report focuses

mainly on graduate education and research, Perlman said it was important to not neglect other areas of study.

The 20/20 report also goes hand-in-hand with the university's prioritization of classes, he said.

Sheila Scheideler, Academic Senate president, said she was pleased with Perlman's progress on adapting the report to faculty needs.

When the statement was first released, several faculty members worried the report focused too much on graduate education and research instead of undergraduate education and the humanities, she said.

But Perlman's continued work has made the statement more friendly toward the areas first thought to be neglected, she said.

"It's all falling into order," she said. "We need to respect that research includes everything,

Please see **20/20** on 3

Prospect: Art students must grasp human spirit

BY VERONICA DAEMN

Before Sunday, Kathleen Rountree had never stepped foot in Nebraska.

But she's at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln now, hoping to become the next dean of fine and performing arts.

Rountree, associate dean of the College of Music and Dramatic Arts at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge, spoke to faculty members Monday about her philosophy on the arts.

She is the third candidate to interview for the position.

Rountree said she was interested in coming to Nebraska for several reasons.

"I see lots of positive indicators here,"

she said. "The budget's stable, the tuition's low, and I see a lot of potential for growth. That's very exciting."

Rountree has been at LSU since 1989 and has been associate dean since 1995.

She said it was important to realize the quality of work being done by students in the College of Fine and Performing Arts.

Sometimes, artists decide the work they do isn't as exotic as the work of scientists, lawyers or agriculturists, Rountree said.

But just because artists don't use as many multisyllabic words doesn't mean the work isn't noteworthy, she said.

"Think about what your students are doing," Rountree said to UNL faculty members and administrators Monday. "They are

striving to express part of being human."

A theater student's learning to perform a soliloquy requires a great understanding of the human spirit, she said.

And a sculpture student creating a piece of art out of a lump of clay is just as special.

"The things we do every day are equally as or more exciting than what's going on at the rest of campus," Rountree said.

She talked about several challenges facing colleges of fine and performing arts, including obtaining funding and becoming more multicultural.

Colleges can no longer rely solely on state support or tuition, she said.

Please see **DEAN** on 6