

# Daily Nebraskan

Forget about Miami:  
Kansas State dashes  
brightening NU title hopes  
In SportsMonday/6,7



The Nebraska soccer team  
takes care of business in  
its first NCAA tournament  
game  
In Sports/12



Artist abandons  
engineering for another  
large-scale interest:  
sculpture  
In Arts/10



## Honoring the Sacrifice



Members of the American Legion Post #3 Firing Squad watch balloons fill the sky over Wyuka Cemetery, 3600 O St. The balloon release was part of the Veteran's Day program held Saturday afternoon. Nebraska Lt. Gov. David Maurstad and WWII veteran Vern O'Neal spoke at the annual veterans recognition ceremony.

Sharon Kolbet/DN

"Once I start shooting, the people get a kick out of it. That's enough of a buzz. Their excitement's kind of infectious."  
Conrad Good, Memorial Stadium hot dog man

## Hot dog top dog stadium star

BY VERONICA DAEHN

Shouts wafted through Memorial Stadium a week ago Saturday as Conrad Good aimed his gun at the thousands of Husker fans hungrily waiting in the stands.

"Hey, hot dog man - shoot me the meat!"

Pop - and the hot dog went flying.

There was a small scuffle for the catch and then cheers and high-fives for the victor.

Minutes later, Good loaded up again, ready to feed the next fan.

For the past four years, this has been Good's Husker game-day routine, flinging Memorial Stadium's Big Red Fairbury Brand hot dogs through the air

again and again.

For most, he's sideline entertainment.

Good, 6-foot-6-inches tall, wears a white laboratory coat as he paces the sidelines. His gun, Der Viener Schlinger, has been redesigned since its initial purchase four years ago and can now shoot high enough to soar over the stadium's sky boxes.

"It's fun," said Good, who admits he doesn't prepare much for the routine anymore.

It isn't needed, he said.

"Once I start shooting, the people get a kick out of it," Good said. "That's enough of a buzz. Their excitement's kind of infectious."

There are always fans yelling to be hit with the meat. But aim-

ing the gun isn't the easiest thing to do. It's hard to pinpoint an exact target, Good said.

The Husker football programs used to have bull's-eye targets printed in them for fans to hold up to the hot-dog shooter.

Those were fairly easy to hit, Good said.

Now, a child sitting atop a parent's shoulders or various homemade targets are easy to aim at. But Good said he doesn't pick specific targets - he just lets the dogs go.

"It's non-stop yelling at me," he said. "There's usually enough excitement (to not have to aim)."

Please see **HOTDOG** on 3

## From plus to minus

Resolution may change current grading system

BY MARGARET BEHM

A resolution will hit the student senate floor Wednesday that will recommend a change to the university's grading system.

Currently, the University of Nebraska-Lincoln has a plus-only grading system. This means professors may give students either just a letter grade or a letter grade with a plus sign attached.

The resolution recommends a system that would allow a letter grade, a letter grade with a plus or a letter grade with a minus to be assigned. This new scale would not affect past or present grades.

The recommendation would go to the Academic Senate.

Miles Bryant, president-elect of the Academic Senate, said he would be in favor of the change to the grading system.

"I would prefer to have a minus," said Bryant, an associate professor of educational administration. "I would prefer greater flexibility when evaluating a student's work. I have never understood why we have the current system."

Wayne Mortensen, Honors Advisory Board secretary, said he is against the proposed grade change because students could

have an A- grade, which would result in a grade point average below a 4.0.

"I think it's misleading," said Mortensen a sophomore architecture major. "Usually a number correlates with a letter. People can say they have an A-GPA, but actually it's a B+ GPA."

If the proposed system went into effect, professors would have more freedom when determining a student's grade, said Graduate Sen. Vicki Geiser.

"It gives them a broader variety of choices for the distribution of grades," said Geiser, Communications Chairwoman for ASUN.

Engineering and Technology Sen. Courtney Mueller, who proposed the resolution, said the grading scale change is necessary to keep the university inline with other universities.

"To be honest, I have yet to find a school with a plus-only system," said Mueller, academic committee chairwoman. "Hopefully this will streamline us with our peer institutions."

The only peer institution of the university that does not have the proposed grading scale is Purdue, which doesn't use pluses or minuses.

Mortensen said that just because other colleges have implemented the plus and

### A new scale

ASUN is proposing a new grading scale which would add pluses and minuses and change the corresponding point values.

Current grading scale	Current point value	proposed Plus/minus grading scale	proposed point value
A+	4.00	A+	4.00
A	4.00	A	4.00
		A-	3.67
B+	3.50	B+	3.33
B	3.00	B	3.00
		B-	2.67
C+	2.50	C+	2.33
C	2.00	C	2.00
		C-	1.67
D+	1.50	D+	1.33
D	1.00	D	1.00
		D-	0.67
F	0.00	F	0.00

Melanie Falk/DN

minus grade system doesn't mean UNL should.

"It took me a while to get used to the grading system at this university," he said. "Now that I am used to it, I see the

Please see **GRADES** on 3

## Barry acquitted in killing

■ The suspect in the 1999 stabbing of James Allen was released Friday after the jury came back with a verdict of not guilty.

BY JOSH FUNK

After a year and a half languishing in county jail accused of murder, Larry Barry was acquitted by a jury Friday.

The jury took about three hours to return its verdict in the March 1999 murder of James Allen on a day when the rest of the court building was quiet in observance of Veteran's Day.

Just before the jury was released from the courtroom, Barry leapt to his feet and thanked the jurors.

"Thank you very much. I did not kill James Allen, and I appreciate the decision you made here," Barry said. Lancaster County District Judge Karen Flowers had made arrangements for Barry to be released Friday even though it was a court holiday.

Two other people, Larry Welch, 46, and Jennifer Irwin, 21, who are charged as accessories to the murder, are slated for trial late this month or next.

In his closing argument, Barry's attorney, Jeff Pickens, questioned whether Barry should have ever been charged for the killing because police failed to link Barry directly to the crime.

"It scares the hell out of me that a jury might convict someone on this evidence," Pickens said.

Special Prosecutor Sean Brennan's case relied on the testimony of inmate informants, transients

and an alcoholic, who was recovering from a drinking binge at the time of the murder and police interrogation.

Although Brennan could place Barry at the scene of the murder, he did not have any forensic evidence linking Barry to the crime.

"It was not a slam dunk for sure. It was a case that needed to go to trial and it did," said Brennan, who was appointed prosecutor because the County Attorney's office had a conflict of interest.

Allen, 38, was found dead in his 1635 F St. apartment March 21, 1999 lying face down with two knives sticking out of his back. Allen had been stabbed a total of seven times.

Barry, 40, had been at Allen's apartment drinking on the day of the murder along with Irwin, Welch and several other people.

At the time, Barry and Irwin were living in Barry's van. The other people at Allen's apartment that day were also transients, according to court documents.

Police had alleged that Barry returned to Allen's apartment the night of the murder to steal \$500, and a fight erupted that escalated to the stabbing.

At trial, Pickens argued that if someone had gone to Allen's apartment to steal, they would have taken one of the computers or the television in the living room.

Before he was stabbed, Allen was beaten over the head with a wooden guitar and a small vacuum

Please see **BARRY** on 3



Courtesy Photo

Conrad Good uses the famous Der Viener Schlinger to shoot a hot dog in front of the Nebraska Union before a home game. It was invented in 1996 by Marc Roode, director of marketing for Roode Packing Company, which makes Fairbury hot dogs.

## Flu season calls for shots

BY MARGARET BEHM

Ahhh-chew! Cough! Sniffle-sniffle.

Flu season has arrived, and it's time for that yearly flu shot. But the vaccine is currently unavailable to most of us.

The University Health Center is experiencing what medical centers around the country are - a shortage of the flu vaccine.

Because one of the nation's top producers of the vaccine, Wyeth-Ayers Laboratories, is behind in the manufacturing of the vaccine, the Health Center has a limited supply, said Dr. Joseph Hermsen, a physician at the University Health Center.

The Food and Drug Administration made the company change the way it manufactured the vaccine, which caused the company to get behind, Hermsen said.

The Health Center is still awaiting the arrival of more flu vaccinations, said Jennifer Snyder, the Health Center's marketing coordinator.

Please see **FLU** on 5