

Star City Parade
lets kids have a
hand in the float
judging
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**The still unbeatable
Nebraska volleyball team**
is headed to the Final Four
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**As the year draws to a
close, we look back at its
best movies, music**
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Regents

Recruiting blueprint requested

BY VERONICA DAEHN

In response to a presentation on undergraduate student recruitment at the University of Nebraska, the Board of Regents on Saturday demanded a plan that would outline a specific focus and a budget.

Susanna Finnell, director of admissions at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, spoke to the board about several ways recruitment at NU could be improved.

But after the presentation, Waterloo Regent Nancy O'Brien said she was disappointed the board hadn't been given a detailed plan on how the university could catch up with its peers.

Without that, the focus is too large and recruitment won't be as effective, she said.

The university needs to focus on getting in touch with prospective students early, O'Brien said. And that should be done on a personal basis, not with mailings.

NU President Dennis Smith agreed. He said personal contact in recruitment was the top priority.

"There ought to be ways in which we can contact every potential college student early on," Smith said.

Now, the crux of UNL's recruitment effort is direct mailings to students.

UNL representatives also visit high schools and work with guidance counselors, Finnell said.

Papillion Regent Drew Miller said the current scope was too broad.

"There is no focus," Miller said. "You are casting the net too widely."

Miller said the board needed to decide if the university's recruitment efforts should focus on in-state or out-of-state students.

If NU can keep more of the top high school students in-state, the university's ranking will likely go up and the recruiting job will be easier, Miller said.

Please see REGENTS on 7

Family asks to speak for Reeves

BY GWEN TIETGEN

A murder victim's husband and daughter continued their fight for a chance to address the Nebraska Board of Pardons before the Nebraska Supreme Court on Friday.

Paula Hutchinson, lawyer for the victim's family Gus and Audrey Lamm, said in her opening oral arguments that the high court needs to let the Lamms do what the Nebraska Constitution says they have the right to do.

Hutchinson said the Lamms have the right to voice opposition to the execution of Randy Reeves under the Nebraska victims protection amendment, which they were denied at a Jan. 11, 1999 Pardons Board meeting.

Nebraska's constitution states that crime victims, which include a victim's family members, have a right to address proceedings dealing with the sentencing or release of the criminal. The Lamms argue they were denied that right.

"All we want is an opportunity to address the Board of Pardons in a public forum," said Audrey Lamm, who was 2-years-old when her mother was murdered.

In 1981, Randy Reeves was sentenced to death in the electric chair for the 1980 murders of Vicki Lamm and Janet Mesner at the Quaker meeting house in Lincoln.

Vicki Lamm was the wife of Gus Lamm and the mother of Audrey Lamm.

Reeves, 44, came within two days from dying in the electric chair when the state Supreme Court stayed the execution on Jan. 12, 1999. Last January, the court vacated the death sentence and ordered a re-sentencing, which is still pending in Lancaster County District Court.

Please see REEVES on 7

No. 50 for the 42nd president



David Clasen/DN



Scott McClurg/DN

TOP: President Bill Clinton shakes hands with those who came to see him speak Friday at Offutt Air Force Base in Bellevue. Clinton said he visited more military bases during his presidency than any president before him. ABOVE: Clinton speaks about foreign policy in the University of Nebraska at Kearney Health and Sports Center during the president's first visit to the state.

Clinton: World affairs affect all citizens

BY BRIAN CARLSON

KEARNEY — Because America's future at home will be tightly linked with events abroad, all citizens have a responsibility to pay close attention to world affairs, President Clinton said Friday.

In his first trip as President to Nebraska — the only state he had yet to visit — Clinton called for active U.S. engagement in the world during a 52-minute address titled "A Foreign Policy for the Global Age," at the University of Nebraska at Kearney's Cushing Health and Sports Center.

"I came here today not just to keep my promise to visit Nebraska," Clinton said, "but to keep working on something at the very end of my term I have been trying for eight years to do, which is to persuade ordinary, hard-working American citizens in the heartland of America that you should be concerned about what goes on beyond our nation's borders and what our role in the rest of the world is."

He recalled a saying by Harry Truman: "We are in the position now of making the world safe for democracy if we don't crawl in a shell and act selfish and foolish."

Clinton's speech at UNK was the first event of his daylong trip to Nebraska. Afterward, he toured the Great Platte River Road Archway, the monument that spans Interstate 80 two miles east of Kearney and commemorates the country's westward expansion.

Then Clinton hopped on the plane designated as Air Force One and flew to Offutt Air Force Base in Bellevue, where he appeared with Sen. Bob Kerrey and Sen.-elect Ben Nelson. Later, he attended a fund-raiser for the Nebraska Democratic Party at Omaha businessman Vinod Gupta's home.

Clinton arrived late at UNK because, during his motorcade ride from Kearney Municipal Airport, he decided to stop twice and shake hands with schoolchild-

"Local conflicts can become worldwide headaches if they're allowed to fester. Therefore, whenever possible, we should stop them before they get out of hand."

President Bill Clinton

ren lining the road in frigid temperatures to watch the president pass by.

An estimated 6,500 people, mostly UNK students, packed the gym to hear Clinton. As the UNK band struck up "Hail to the Chief," the crowd rose and applauded the entry of Clinton, Gov. Mike Johanns, UNK Chancellor Gladys Styles Johnston and Casey L. Mendez, a UNK junior political science major chosen to introduce the president.

Those four speakers and the NU Board of Regents sat on stage ahead of a blue backdrop bearing three UNK insignia. The podium was emblazoned with the seal of the President of the United States.

"Can't you feel the electricity?" Johnston said as she began the convocation. She applauded Clinton's visit, saying he had helped bring about a "golden age" for higher education.

"It is appropriate that we pay homage to President Clinton as the education president," she said. "The president has always understood the power and wisdom of education as a national treasure."

Smith and Johnston presented Clinton, who wore a black gown and a white stole, with an honorary UNK

Please see KEARNEY on 2

A cold Offutt crowd warms to president

Some Nebraskans waited for more than five hours to hear Clinton speak.

BY BRADLEY DAVIS

OFFUTT, AFB — About 10,000 people braved the cold — some for more than five hours — to catch a glimpse of President Bill Clinton at Offutt Air Force Base on Friday.

In a state known for its Republican leanings, some might have thought conservative hearts had thawed to Clinton by looking at the throng of people gathered in the frigid December air.

But a good number of people couldn't have cared less about Clinton, the man. They wanted to see Clinton, the leader of the free world.

Two students from an Omaha Westside High School government class attended the event as a part of a select group that got to view the president up close — they were escorted to the front of the crowd.

Ian Rennels and Chris Frerichs, two 17-year-olds with the school group, said they weren't particularly thrilled with Clinton as a person. Nor did

they think Clinton really wanted to be in Nebraska — "He puts on a good front," Frerichs said.

But they were charged to see such a powerful man.

Clinton's appearance was enough to warm the heart of Omahan Catherine Sorbello, though.

Said the Democratic party stalwart: "He's the most brilliant person we've had around in a long time."

Clinton rewarded those who had waited patiently, holding signs and donning hats that declared the president had "Saved the Best for Last," with a 10-minute speech.

He reiterated the points he'd made on foreign policy earlier in the day to an audience of 6,500 at the University of Nebraska at Kearney.

Clinton encouraged Americans not to squander the unprecedented economic and social prosperity they now enjoy by ignoring their duties abroad.

"The world is getting smaller," Clinton said. "Information and people are crossing borders" — that's why it's important to care about what's going on beyond your own backyard, he

Please see OMAHA on 2