NEWS RELEASE

LINCOLN FIRE DEPARTMENT
1801 "Q" STREET
LINCOLN, NE 68508

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LINCOLN FIRE DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES -"TEAM SPIRIT" PROGRAM HUSKERS AND FIREFIGHTERS PROMOTING GOODWILL!

Starting Monday, March 27 at 7:00 PM, Lincoln Fire Fighters and the University of Nebraska have teamed up in a new innovative program to visit sick and injured children at area hospitals. Lincoln Fire Chief Michael Spadt announced that the new program, "TEAM SPIRIT" is a partnership effort developed by Keith Zimmer, Director of Life Skills for the University of Nebraska Athletic Department and Lincoln Fire Captain Rick Grell. **The hospital they will be visiting on March 27th will be St. Elizabeth Medical Center, 555 So. 70th Street**.

Lincoln Firefighters and seven designated UNL athletes will visit local hospitals. They will be visiting on Monday and Wednesday evenings, alternating the weeks on Tuesday and Thursday evenings, from 7:00 p.m. until 8:15 p.m. The athletes and firefighters will visit sick and injured children on the pediatrics ward. "They will be presenting team posters, signatures, and visiting with the children to boost morale and brighten their day," Chief Spadt said.

Lincoln Firefighters will be picking up the UNL athletes at 7:00 p.m. at the UNL South stadium on "T" Street (the old ticket office location). The athletes scheduled to attend the "TEAM SPIRIT" Kick-Off on Monday, March 27th are:

Bobby Newcome - UNL Football
Troy Hassebroek - UNL Football
Justin Smith - UNL Football
Chris Butler - UNL Football
Jenny Benson - UNL Womens Soccer
Danica Carey - UNL Womens Soccer
Ian Gray - UNL Cross Country

For questions and arranging photo opportunity, please call Fire Captain Rick Grell at Station #10: 441-8380 or his home at 435-0013. All media are invited for photo opportunity.