



August 22, 2008

**PLATTE INSTITUTE
TRANSPARENCY
CONFERENCE IS
NOV. 18**

What: Nebraska’s first conference devoted to Government Transparency.
Where: University of Nebraska Union in Lincoln.
When: 9 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 18.
Presenters: John Stossel, Co-Anchor of 20/20
Shane Osborn, Nebraska State Treasurer
Dr. Charlyne Berens, UNL Professor
Roger Lempke, Platte Institute Executive Director
Nicole Barrett, JD, Unveiling Platte Institute’s Unicameral Votes Online website.

For more details or for a conference brochure, visit www.platteinstitute.org. There are a limited number of tickets available and the event is sure to sell out. Ticket prices for the conference and luncheon together start at \$75 prior to Oct. 18.

**MEDIA
INFORMATION**

If you are a member of the media and would like more

**PLATTE
CHAT**

**REPORT: THE BETTER THE HUSKERS
FINISH, THE BETTER OFF YOU ARE**

With the start of the University of Nebraska football season drawing closer, the Platte Institute for Economic Research has released a report examining how the success of the Huskers on the football field correlates with some key economic factors in the state.

The report, authored by Alek Blankenau, takes a look at how the success – or lack thereof – in football in the fall compares with changes in the per capita personal net earnings and the total full time and part time employment in the state the following calendar year. The findings show, on average, that the better the Big Red does, the better off you are the following year.

Blankenau himself knows a little about Division I athletics. A former All-Nebraska basketball player from Lincoln Southeast, Blankenau has spent the past two seasons as a member of the Harvard University basketball team. This past season he scored three points for the Crimson in a loss at Stanford and later in the season he scored a team-high 14 points for Harvard against Brown.

An example of the findings in the report is that, from the time period of 1969-2005, the average annual increase in per capita personal net earnings was 6.01%. The average in years following a national

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Platte Institute
for Economic Research
10050 Regency Circle Ste 120
Omaha, NE 68114



THANK YOU.

championship was 7.48% while the average in years following a season in which the Huskers finished unranked was 5.17%.

You can read the full report by clicking [HERE](#).

JOHN STOSSEL HEADLINES INSTITUTE'S GOVERNMENT TRANSPARENCY CONFERENCE

Roger Lempke, executive director of the Platte Institute for Economic Research, led a press conference on Monday, Aug. 11, on the steps of the State Capitol during which the line-up for the Institute's Transparency Conference was announced.

"Heightened citizen awareness from greater transparency in government has proven successful in achieving better accountability in other states. It can happen in Nebraska, too," said Lempke. "Nebraska's Unicameral legislature is an efficient form of governing. But we must never forget that it relies on citizen vigilance instead of partisanship to be successful."

The conference is scheduled for Tuesday, Nov. 18, 2008 at the Nebraska Union in Lincoln. The luncheon keynote speaker will be ABCNEWS correspondent and 20/20 co-anchor John Stossel, who has received 19 Emmy Awards and is a New York Times best-selling author. Nebraska State Treasurer Shane Osborn, University of Nebraska-Lincoln Professor Charlyne Berens, PhD, author of *Power to the People* and *One House*, also will present during the conference.

Another highlight of the conference will be a presentation by Platte Institute Senior Policy Analyst Nicole Barrett, JD, on the unveiling of the Institute's website *Unicameral Votes Online*, which will give citizens an opportunity to better track happenings in the Unicameral.

To obtain a copy of the conference brochure, please click [HERE](#).

How You Can Help

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Thank you for your generosity and thank you for caring about Nebraska.

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