• The White House announced June 12 that Dean Sicking, professor of Civil Engineering, received the nation's highest honor for technology.

The National Medal of Technology honors America's leading innovators. It is given to individuals, teams and companies that develop and commercialize technological innovations and processes that improve the nation's economic, environmental and social well-being.

As director of the Midwest Roadside Safety Facility, Sicking was instrumental in developing the award-winning Steel and Foam Energy Reducing Barrier that has been installed at racetracks throughout the country. The SAFER barrier absorbs energy to reduce the crash's impact and then distributes energy over the wall without forcing the vehicle back into traffic.

Sicking will receive the award during a July 27 ceremony at the White House in Washington, D.C.

• Nebraska assistant strength and conditioning coach Dave Langworthy has been named Master Strength and Conditioning Coach by the Collegiate Strength and Conditioning Coaches Association.

The honor is the highest given in the strength and conditioning coaching profession, and the announcement was made at the CSCCA National Conference.

Langworthy was one of three strength and conditioning coaches nationally to receive the certification in 2007.

• The American Volleyball Coaches Association named NET Sports executive producer Joe Turco as the recipient of its 2006-07 AVCA Grant Burger Media Award.

As the finalist in the Broadcasting category, Turco was chosen as the national award's overall recipient over three other finalists in the categories of print, web and sports information/athletic communications.

The AVCA award is named after Grant Burger, former director of sports information and associate director of the AVCA (1988-92), whose hard work, innovative mind, knowledge and enthusiasm took the areas of media relations and publications at the AVCA to a higher level and increased awareness of the sport of volleyball nationwide.

• Four UNL graduate students have received Presidential Graduate Fellowships for the 2007-08 academic year.

"The Presidential Graduate Fellowships recognize dedication and excellence among graduate students who are conducting extraordinary research and scholarly activity on our campuses," said James B. Milliken, NU president.

A total of eight fellowships were awarded to students in the NU system. The four fellows from UNL are: Tonia Compton of Lincoln, a doctoral candidate in history; Jehanne Dubrow of Lincoln, doctoral candidate in English; John Burton of Lincoln, doctoral candidate in physics and astronomy; and Amber Epp of Omaha, doctoral candidate in business.

Fellows at UNL each receive an annual stipend of $24,000.