

Working Mother honors U.P., First National

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Union Pacific Corp. and First National Bank of Omaha are on Working Mother magazine's 2006 list of the 100 best companies for working mothers, along with Principal Financial Group of Des Moines.

First National is on the list for the fifth consecutive year. Union Pacific has been on the list five of the past six years.

Mike Foutch, vice president of human resources for First National, said the bank's programs aimed at working mothers include flexible work schedules, benefits for parttime work, job-sharing, telecommuting and a child-care center.

The bank also has a Parents at Work group that publishes a newsletter, holds monthly meetings and promotes networking

among employees with children.

Barb Schaefer, senior vice president for human resources at Union Pacific, said the railroad's employment priorities include compensation, advancement, flexibility, child care, parental leave and balancing work and life.

The railroad has a child-care center near its Omaha headquarters and sponsors a women's networking group called LEAD, which stands for Lead, Educate, Achieve, Develop.

Companies that apply for the designation fill out forms that list employment policies and other information. The magazine gives added weight to such areas as flexible scheduling and leave time, which allow mothers to take several months off to care for newborns or several years to be at home with young children.

Employee Perks Job features common among companies named the best for working mothers include:

Flextime

Telecommuting

Fitness-center subsidy

Health insurance for part-time workers

Job sharing

Elder and child-care resource and referral

Compressed workweek

Emergency/sick child care
Source: Working Mother magazine

First National is a ducky place to work



Kiley Cruse/THE WORLD-HERALD

Children from First National Bank's child development center in downtown Omaha play with rubber ducks. The company ordered 6,000 of the ducks to celebrate being named for the fifth consecutive year to Working Mother magazine's list of 100 employers with the best benefits and policies for working mothers. The ducks, painted green to match the company's logo colors, float in the fountains at the First National Tower, where employees also enjoyed a free breakfast Wednesday.

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