

# Goal to revamp award eludes ASUN senators

# Speech addresses rights of disabled

BY JESSICA FARGEN  
Assignment Reporter

ASUN

Although a new student government body and a new set of ASUN goals will be decided today, one of this year's goals will die.

Reconstructing the Outstanding Educator Award was a goal of the Association of Students of the University of Nebraska that was not met this year.

Because students vote for the award during today's general election, Tuesday was the last chance the system could have been restructured.

Since the award's origin a couple of years ago, the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's best teacher has been elected by a popular vote.

This process was flawed because not all teachers had the same chance to win, said Erik Hoegemeyer, chairman of the Academic Committee.

"The thing that's so tough about this is it's so hard to make it fair," he said. "Because you want to make it

possible for the small college professors to win, but if you do that you can't have a popular vote."

ASUN President Curt Ruwe said incidents such as Assistant English Professor David Hibler's e-mail and the fact that work on ASUN elections took more time than expected were more important issues than changing the award process.

"It was just too far down on the priority list," Ruwe said.

But Hoegemeyer said he would not stop working for some compromise on the award.

He said he planned on talking with next year's Academic Committee about reconstructing the award.

Hoegemeyer said it was a complex issue that probably could not have been accomplished in their administration.

"It's better to leave it this way for one more year than rush in into it and make a mistake."

BY TED MCCASLIN  
Staff Reporter

Civil rights are no longer just about skin color, a speaker at the NU College of Law said Tuesday.

Paul Steven Miller, commissioner of the Federal Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, said accommodating disabled workers has been an important goal of civil rights movements in recent years.

"Civil rights is really quite simple," he said. "People should be selected for employment by ability."

Miller, who spoke standing on a stool at the podium in the Welpton Courtroom at the NU law school, said civil rights now help protect handicapped people. He called the Americans with Disabilities Act a "simple, but revolutionary law."

The ADA prohibits discrimination in employment on the basis of disability.

It requires construction, alteration or renovation of buildings and structures to improve services to the public.

The EEOC was set up in 1964 as a part of the Civil Rights Act. It enforces federal legislation prohibiting employment discrimination.

Miller has been commissioner of the EEOC since a unanimous September 1994 Congressional confirmation. President Clinton selected him for the position.

Miller said the ADA can "ensure people with disability integration with the economic and public world." Public services improved by the ADA include transportation, architecture, telecommunications and workplaces, he said.

"ADA seeks to remove arbitrary barriers in society which prevent disabled people from (attaining employment)," Miller said.

Employers and service providers, such as restaurants or bars, must

spend money to accommodate handicapped people. While this can be difficult, Miller said, each step in civil rights is a difficult one.

"Each step is a revolution of sorts," he said.

Miller, who calls himself a "small" person, said he has faced discrimination as well. While looking for jobs out of law school, Miller was told by a major law firm: "We personally don't have a problem with your size, but we fear our clients would think we were running a circus freak show."

This was before ADA laws took effect.

Targeting discrimination like the law firm showed years ago now is up to future lawyers, Miller said.

"I want you not to lose sight of the reason you went to law school in the first place," Miller said.

"Civil rights will be more exciting, hard and satisfying than securities transfer."

## Law & Order

### Man arrested for larceny

A thief caught breaking into a car Monday evening told a witness not to look at him while he broke the car's window.

The witness, however, returned home and called the police to report suspicious activity in the 2100 block of J Street, Lincoln Police Sgt. Ann Heermann said.

When police arrived, they found the car's window broken and the stereo missing - \$150 and \$100 losses, respectively.

Later, police found Brion Green, 21, in a parking lot at 619 S. 20th St. and arrested him for larceny.

### Tools stolen from garage

A Lincoln man returned home Friday to find more than \$3,000 worth of tools had been stolen from his garage.

A drill, two saws, a space heater and a 10-CD changer were taken between Feb. 27 and Friday, Heermann said. The items were worth about \$3,480.

Police believe the thief may have

gotten into the garage on the 2800 block of Hallmark Court with a remote garage door opener kept in a van parked in the driveway. Police think the van was unlocked.

### Weather leads to accident

Poor driving conditions led to a collision between a front-end loader and a pickup truck along Pine Lake Road Monday morning.

The loader was traveling east in the westbound lanes when the driver felt a jolt that he realized was another vehicle, Heermann said.

The driver of the 1983 Chevy pickup truck said blowing snow preventing him from seeing the loader.

The collision caused \$2,000 damage to the pickup and \$2,500 damage to the loader. Both occupants of the pickup were taken to Lincoln General Hospital. They were both listed in fair condition Tuesday afternoon.

Compiled by Senior Reporter Josh Funk

### CORRECTION

A brief in Monday's Law and Order section incorrectly stated details of an alleged rape Saturday night. Police reports did not indicate that the victim removed her clothing herself before the rape.

## Candidates urge student participation

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for international students by making personal visits to their organizations and encouraging them to be involved.

Wiechmann said that besides a president's cabinet, VISION also would hold open forums, encourage more methods classes and more class offerings on East Campus and work with UNL Parking Services to quit overselling student parking lots.

On the ballot will be candidates for ASUN president/student regent, first and second vice presidents, senators of colleges and members for the Committee for Fees Allocation.

Polling sites will be open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. in the Nebraska and East unions and the Campus Recreation Center; noon to 8 p.m. in Neihardt Residence Hall; and 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. in Sandoz and Harper residence halls.

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**Todd Palmer**  
Clarinet

Friday, March 13  
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Photo: Christian Steiner

**John Nakamatsu**  
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Thursday, March 19  
8pm  
Kimball Recital Hall

Photo: Ellen Appel

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