

Bragg questions police inquiry

Lincoln Mayor Sam Schwartzkopf's call for a police investigation into two complaints against police officers is "only to get votes," according to Jo Doris Bragg, one of two women opposing the mayor in Tuesday's primary.

"Asking the police department to do an investigation of themselves is like asking the fox to watch the henhouse," Bragg said.

The investigation is in response to complaints filed by Harvey Little Thunder and William McKinney. Little Thunder claims his son Steven, 24, was beaten by two officers on March 20 during his arrest for intoxication.

McKinney's complaint is against alleged harassment by police in connection with the beating and robbery of a man at a downtown hotel. He claims he had been stopped repeatedly for questioning by the police.

But Bragg charges that Schwartzkopf "isn't interested in whether 'Little Thunder was beaten by police or not.'"

Schwartzkopf says the investigation of complaints has nothing to do with the April 8 primary.

He called for the investigation because "this one looked a little more serious than most complaints," he said.

"Most complaints by citizens," he said, "have been dispensed with by talking to the individuals. This one was not."

The fact that it came just before the primary is "only coincidental," Schwartzkopf said.

Interim Police Chief Dale Adams said allegations that police investigations are meaningless have been made before, and added that there are other avenues for complaints open to citizens. People with complaints may file them through the mayor's office, for example, thus bypassing the police department, he said.

Adams said the investigation is being conducted by department supervisors and that results should be in this week.

Bragg, who said she served on a citizen investigation panel several years ago, said the police department will continue to get complaints "until they get a public board to do the investigations."

"They (the police) need to come under public scrutiny," Bragg said.

"They are not a bad police force," she said, but added there is need for a public communication committee to bring the police closer to the community.

Helen Bosoalis, Schwartzkopf's other opponent, declined to comment on the mayor's investigation request.

Cable TV manager:

Announcement premature

An announcement that a Kansas City, Mo., cable television network would carry rebroadcasts of Nebraska football games has surprised the network's general manager.

Terry Lemmons, general manager of Target Network, said the announcement made by Broadcasting Magazine was premature.

"I don't know what the hell I'm getting from the Omaha station that sends the tapes to us," Lemmons said. "All I know is that I have agreed to televise Nebraska football games on a delayed basis."

Jack Loudon, president of the Kansas City Alumni Association, explained that he acted as a negotiator between KETV in Omaha and Target Network to rebroadcast the Tom Osborne Show, which is produced by KETV.

Lemmons said Loudon asked him to rebroadcast video tapes of Nebraska football games on a delayed basis. He understood that the video tapes would contain five football games, Lemmons said.

"We wanted the Kansas City alumni to be able to see Nebraska football action," Loudon said. "At the same time, we wanted to increase publicity for Nebraska football down here."

Loudon said the coach's show is already seen over nine cable television stations in Kansas City. He said the intent of the offer to Target Network was to consolidate the rebroadcast of the Tom Osborne show into one network.

Target Network programming is used by 50 local cable systems in Missouri, Nebraska, Kentucky, Iowa, Kansas and Oklahoma. The rebroadcasts could be seen on local cable stations in Hastings, Kearney, Grand Island and Lexington, Lemmons said.

No money is involved in the agreement, except to cover shipping charges incurred by Target Network.

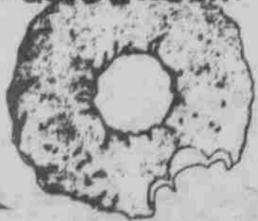
Lemmons said he thought the show could be broadcast on Tuesday nights next fall, but no definite time has been established to televise it yet.

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