

# Election recount reverses decision

A recount of the ballots from the recent University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO) student government election has reversed the earlier decision.

The new total, reached after compensating for a "human error", starts the machinery for a new UNO student government.

A referendum providing for a new student government at UNO received a majority of votes, according to a recount Tuesday.

Election Commissioner Jeff Koneck said the vote was 363 for and 200 against. This compares to the earlier figures, 286 for, 205 against, which were found to be in error.

Two persons counting the votes had put the ballots into piles, but had not counted them, Koneck said. However a figure was given to Koneck that he reported to the public, he said.

Later, he said he questioned the information because it "didn't seem right to me," and he called for a recount.

"We were all real tired that night and I just accepted the figure," Koneck said.

The earlier vote represented only a plurality, not the majority required for it to pass.

The referendum will put into effect a new constitution for student government, he said.

This constitution will give total control over all student fees to the Student Government Association (SGA). Koneck said the proposal will go before the NU Board of Regents Saturday.

UNO student president-elect, Paul Hoffman said such student control is against regent policy. Hoffmann said students should have final recommendation over fees, but not total control over them.

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## Four charged in Cather blast

By John Ortmann

Four UNL students were arraigned Tuesday afternoon in Lancaster County Court in connection with an explosion late Monday night in Cather Hall.

Those arraigned: Edward Bannister, 19, Philip Harris, 18, Michael McCaulley, 18, all from Holdrege, and Martin Mullican, 21, from Omaha. All are Cather Hall residents.

They were charged with destruction of a building with an explosive device, a felony carrying a penalty of five to 15 years in prison and/or up to a \$10,000 fine, according to Deputy County Attorney Alan Everett.

The four may also face charges of violating the University Code of Conduct, according to Suzanne Brown, assistant to the vice chancellor for Student Affairs.

Brown said it would "appear likely" that the students would go before the university judiciary on charges of possessing an explosive device, damaging a UNL building and possibly others.

Anyone convicted under the code faces probation, suspension or expulsion from UNL.

Brown said no definite date has been set for bringing the university action.

Bannister, Harris and Mullican were arrested early Tuesday morning in Cather Hall by Campus Police officers. McCaulley was arrested Tuesday afternoon shortly before the arraignment.

Information provided by other Cather Hall residents led to the arrests, according to Campus Police Capt. Robert Edmunds.

The explosion occurred at 11:30 p.m. Monday in a stairwell on the 13th floor of Cather Hall, Edmunds said. He said the blast caused approximately \$150 damage. Apparently there were no injuries.

Evidence at the scene indicated the homemade bomb was a cast-iron pipe about six inches long and one-half inch in diameter, Edmunds said. The bomb was charged with black powder and detonated with a firecracker's fuse, he said.

The suspects were released by County Judge Jeffery Chevront on \$1,500 personal recognizance bonds.

Public defenders will be appointed for Bannister, McCaulley and Mullican, Everett said. Harris will be required to provide his own counsel since he can afford it, Everett said.

The suspects are not required to enter a plea until after a Dec. 13 docket call in District Court, Everett said.

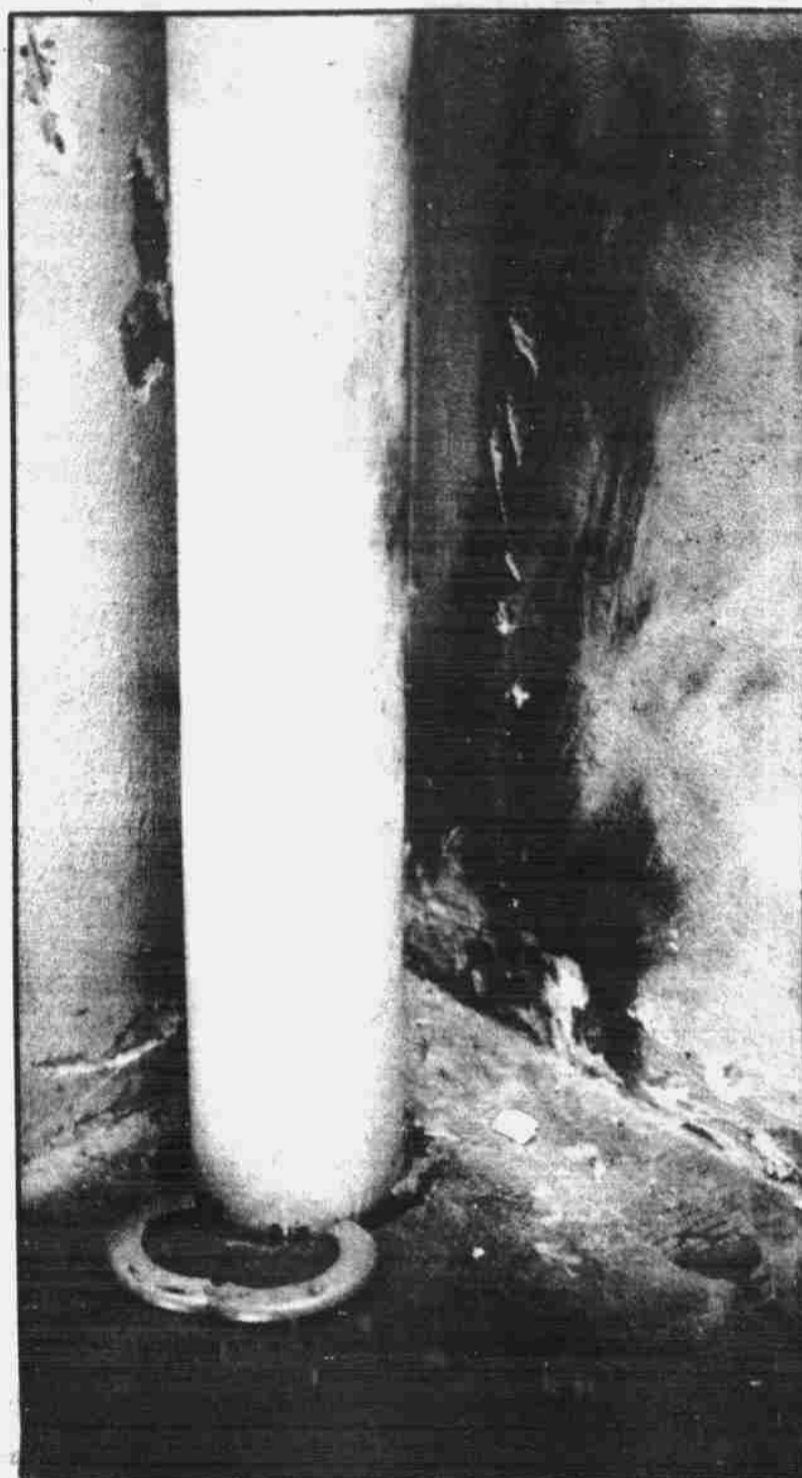


Photo by Tim Ford

The explosion on the 13th floor of Cather Residence Hall caused damage estimated at \$150, according to Campus Police.

## Bowl bid brings criticism

By Mike McCarthy and Mike Patten

Football, not books apparently was on some "decision-makers' minds when UNL officials accepted an invitation to play in the Dec. 19 Liberty Bowl in Memphis, Tenn. against the University of North Carolina.

The game is scheduled during finals week at UNL and although finals week scheduling will not change, the decision to accept the bowl bid prompted a response by some UNL faculty members.

Meeting at the request of Chancellor Roy Young Nov. 18, the Intercollegiate Athletic Committee (IAC) recommended the "scheduling of athletic events during examination is academically unsound. Athletes as well as other students should be expected to follow normal final examination schedules as published.

"For the national image and general welfare of the entire University, we feel this tentative agreement should be honored," the recommendation said. "We, as a committee, further feel that whenever possible the scheduling of future athletic events that may conflict with university academic pursuits should be avoided."

The committee, which is a liaison between the faculty and athletic department, includes chairman William Sesow of Teachers College and UNL Athletic Director Bob Devaney.

### No other bids

Sesow said the IAC thinks UNL would not get any other bowl bids if they turned down the Liberty Bowl.

"There was a feeling that if we did not accept the Liberty Bowl our football team would stay home this year," he said. "It's unfortunate, just an oversight by Mr. Devaney. Accepting the Liberty Bowl bid during finals week was academically unsound."

"If anything like this happens again, to put it bluntly, we won't like it. I hope the faculty will be flexible (in holding

students to final exams). It's a bad deal all the way around."

Devaney said he agreed the date of the bowl comes at a bad time.

"I admit it's not an ideal date," he said. "Next year if the same situation comes up we'll stay home if that's our only choice."

### Considerations made

Ned Hedges, interim vice chancellor for academic affairs, said arrangements for football players and cheerleaders will be made so that they may attend the game.

"Individual faculty members are encouraged to make arrangements for examinations upon request by individual members of the football traveling squad and the cheerleading squad to allow participation in Liberty Bowl activities," he said.

**Band members already have voted to go to the Liberty Bowl. Now they need to raise the money to get there. See the story on p.7.**

Sesow said he could not explain why the athletic dept. would schedule games during finals.

"Only one guy can give you that answer," he said. "I have a lot of respect for Mr. Devaney, but I don't know how he thinks."

William Alschwede, Faculty Senate liaison to the IAC, said an informal survey taken by the Faculty Senate's executive committee indicated disapproval with the decision to accept the bid.

"There is always a possibility of someone failing a class because of bowl games," he said. "We encourage the athletic dept. to avoid that in the future."

"It was our feeling that even though academics are desirable, it might be in the best interest of the state to have the football team represent the university in a national bowl."

