

Students plead innocent to charges from night rally

By Val Swinton

Fifteen UNL students, angered over what they claim was mistreatment by Lincoln Police, and because many said they didn't feel they did anything wrong, pleaded innocent in court Tuesday to charges stemming from two bonfires early Friday morning at 16th and R and 16th and S streets.

Thirteen of the students appeared in municipal court to answer charges of disturbing the peace and interfering with the duties of a police officer. They are: Curt Brown, Ronald Kobler, Richard Plazek, Jeff P. Sharp, Richard Hergenrader, Andrew Peterson, Craig Meierhenry, James Meyer, Wade Morris, Mathew Bassett, John Gilmore, Samuel Segnar and Douglas Brooks.

Two persons, Mike Phillips and Michael Zeis, appeared in county court facing charges of resisting and abusing an officer and disturbing the peace. Two others, Chris Thelen, who was charged with arson, and Stephen Snyder, accused of larceny, were not charged yet in court.

Conflicting claims

Police say they are not aware of any

abuse by officers, but students are claiming one was beaten over the head with a nightstick, while another said his glasses were broken when he was hit in the face with a flashlight.

Mike Phillips, who said he was struck in the face with a nightstick, requiring six stitches, said he hasn't decided if he will take legal action against the police.

Phillips was originally charged with resisting arrest, assaulting a police officer, and disturbing the peace.

However, a spokesman in the county attorney's office said after reviewing the facts of the case, the charges were reduced to resisting and abusing a police officer.

Douglas Brooks, whose glasses were broken, said a policeman ordered him to leave the area, and as he did so, "another cop grabbed me, pulled my hair back with one hand, and struck me in the right eye with his flashlight."

Both Phillips and the other student say they are sure it was Lincoln Police officers who struck them. Arrest records indicate Lincoln Police made 15 arrests, while Uni-

versity Police made two.

Inquiry leads to arrest

John Gilmore, vice president of the Sigma Nu Fraternity, said he was arrested after he went to a police car to find out why other members of his fraternity were being arrested. Gilmore said he then was ushered into a patrol car and taken to the police station, where he was charged with disturbing the peace.

However, both Lincoln Police Chief George Hansen and the director of University Police, Gale Gade, said they were not aware of any injustices committed by officers at the scene.

"I don't know of any instance where our police used nightsticks," Hansen said. "Our initial reaction was to block off the street and let the thing go."

But, he said, police moved in when non-private property was thrown into the fire.

"It began to get out of hand," he said, "we tried to get them to disperse."

Hansen added one of his officers was injured when he was punched in the face,

and required treatment.

Validity questioned

The director of the University Police, Gale Gade, said his officers also did not observe any police brutality being committed by Lincoln Police.

"Those sort of things you have to take with a grain of salt, as far as their validity is concerned," he said.

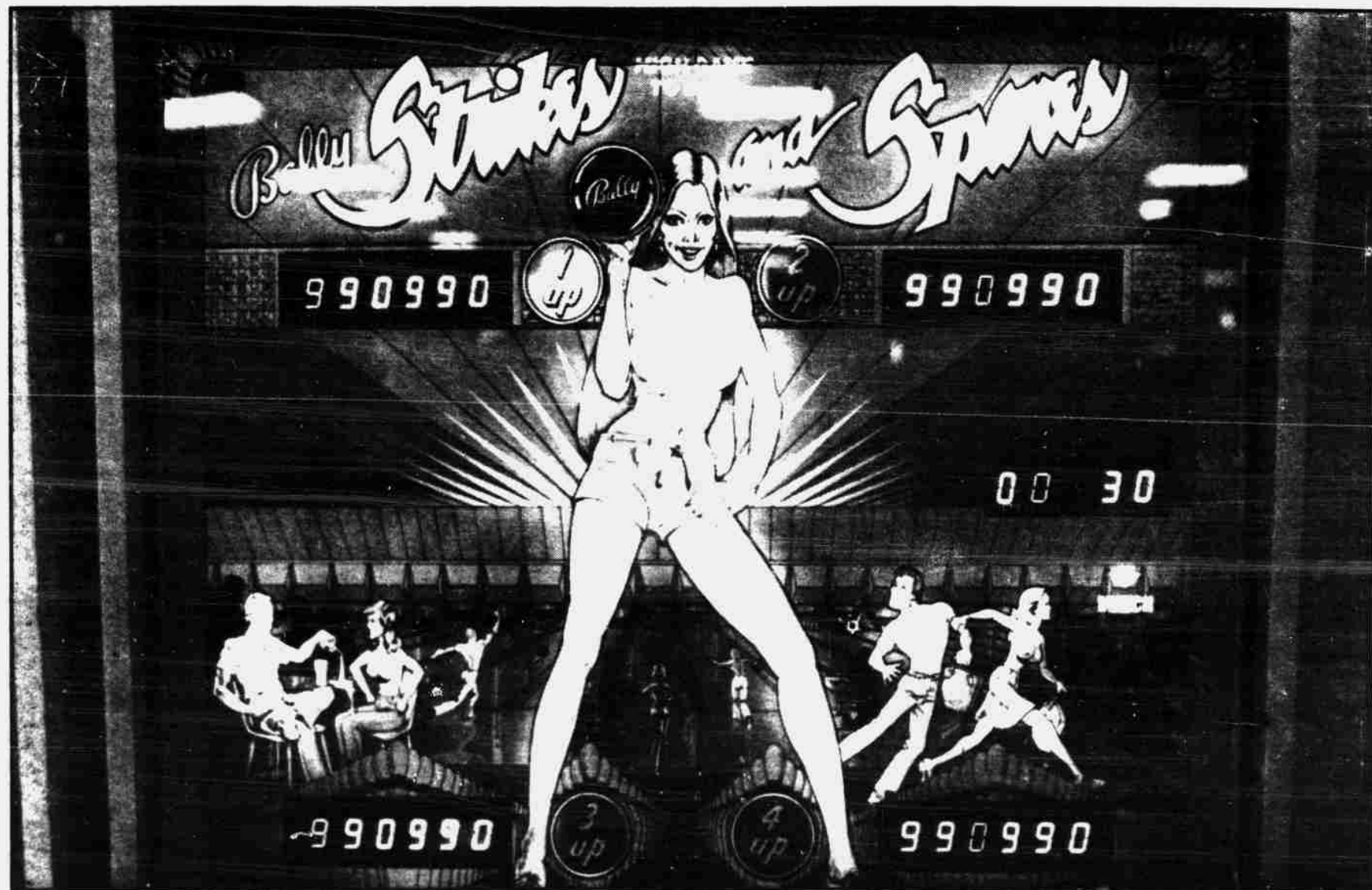
While some students have hinted at the possibility of filing complaints with the Lincoln Police Department's internal affairs division, no such complaints had been filed as of Tuesday.

In addition to the disturbance on Friday, two other persons were arrested Saturday while the goal posts were being torn down.

Timothy Luchsinger and Kevin Bartels were charged with suspicion of destruction of state property, but the charges were later reduced to resisting an officer. A spokesman in the county attorney's office said it would be difficult to single out those two, considering the number of persons on Memorial Stadium field Saturday afternoon.

Pinballs pinging all over town in response to latest fad

By Mary Fastenau



Pinball playing attracts hundreds of wizards every day.

Daily Nebraskan photo

Devaney criticizes fans' attitudes

By Jim Kay
Sports Editor

UNL's football team may have reached new heights with a win against the University of Oklahoma Saturday. But at the same time UNL fan sportsmanship may have reached new depths, according to Athletic Director Bob Devaney.

Verbal and physical abuse of the Oklahoma players and coaches, and the continual throwing of objects onto the playing field were cited by Devaney as little more than "bush league operations."

"I don't want to dampen the enthusiasm of the crowds," Devaney said, "but we would like to see a stop to all the foolishness. We understand the great exuberance which is justifiable with such a win. But the throwing of objects is foolish."

Devaney condemned the throwing of oranges on the field because a player could slip and be hurt by the debris on the field.

"Besides, if we were going to the Rose or Cotton Bowl you wouldn't have it

(throwing debris)," Devaney said.

He added fan control at Nebraska has never been a problem in the past.

"We've gradually come to this," he said. "I've become more concerned as the season has gone along. It started last year with the Alabama game. I was disappointed with the treatment given Bear Bryant. People were pushing him and grabbing for his hat."

"Nebraska has had high class fans ever since I've been here," he continued. "Our fans have been complimented at home and away games. But the last two years, things have gone downhill real fast."

Devaney said he hated seeing Nebraska's sportsmanship image dragged down to lower levels.

"This kind of action puts us in the same class as some other schools in the league, but I won't mention any names," he said. "I think it's just a small part of the student section following the leader stuff."

"The big problem is not with students

(as a whole). Attitudes are carried over. If the action and attitude of the students is positive, they can do a lot to stop this."

Having the fans behavior broadcasted to a national television audience also was discouraging to Devaney.

"When people see it on TV and it's continually done," he said, "it causes criticism from all over the country."

Devaney said he hoped fan reaction would be more favorable this weekend when the Huskers face the University of Missouri since UNL locked up an Orange Bowl invitation with the win against Oklahoma.

He added he hopes more favorable behavior will carry over to the 1979 season as well.

"I hate to come to the point where policemen have to patrol the stands," he said, "and I don't mean that as a threat."

"We're at a point where we don't want to go down the ladder anymore. It's just a bush league way of doing things."

It only takes one quarter to take a trip to the "Lost World," where every move you make, whether planned or unplanned, is marked by strange, eerie noise.

With one step and another quarter, you can let your temperature rise with "Disco Fever" as your moves determine the music, instead of the music determining your moves.

Yet another step and one more quarter allows you to become involved in "Space Wars," where the rocket engines blare as you plan your destroying mission.

To experience these phenomena, you must temporarily leave reality and live in the world of pinball machines.

Home pinball

It seems that more and more people are enjoying the world of pinball as they bring machines into their homes for recreation or visit them regularly in arcades, recreation centers or bars.

A co-owner of Nebraska Billiard Co., which sells pinball machines, said she has seen a trend toward more home models.

Connie Mueller said as people begin spending more time at home, they spend more money in recreation rooms, which often include pinball machines.

She explained that her company does not have the machines in stock, but they can get them within one or two days.

Different models

Currently, Mueller said, there are six different home models offered by the firm she works through. She said a home model does not include the coin device and is usually cheaper. An average price for a home model is \$795, but a new machine lists for about \$1,800, she explained.

There is not one particular pinball machine that Mueller said she would describe as the "most popular."

"It is just what people are looking for," she said, "because they are all quite a bit different."

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