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4 cases of indecent exposure are reported to UNL police

By Lauri Hoppie

Four incidents of indecent exposure on campus have been reported to the UNL Police Department since Sept. 10, police records show. All victims were female students.

The first reported case of indecent exposure Sept. 10 led to the arrest of a white male on Sept. 12. Police declined to release the man's name until his arraignment which is scheduled for Thursday. In this case, the victim reportedly knew the offender.

Victims of the other three incidents said they did not recognize the offender. In one case, several women reported seeing a man wearing only a white T-shirt over his head in the Smith Hall laundry room about 7:43 p.m. Tuesday.

Two UNL women, who were walking near 16th and R streets at 11:13 p.m. Wednesday, said an unidentified man stepped out of the trees with his pants pulled down as they passed by. On Thursday,

two women reported seeing a naked man in a second-floor corridor of Smith Hall at 1:10 a.m.

Bob Fey of the UNL police said the cases' and descriptions of the offender in the last three incidents seem similar. He said the same person may be involved in all three cases.

Victims described the flasher as being from 5-9 to 6-feet tall with a stocky build, very light complexion and dark hair.

One of the victims of the Sept. 14 exposure described the incident as "a surprise."

"We were kind of scared because we were talking about scary things like rape. We were having this conversation, and he said, 'Hey, girls.' We looked over, and he was about 10 feet from the sidewalk."

Running is one of the best things to do in such a situation, Fey said. He said that if it happens in an enclosed area, the victim should get out to avoid being trapped.

City police report more sex offenses

The number of sexual offenses in Lincoln — excluding rape — depends on the season, but has increased since last year, police records show.

Lt. Al Maxey of the Lincoln Police Department said more sexual offenses occur when the weather is pleasant, rather than cold and rainy.

He said five indecent exposures have been reported in Lincoln since Saturday. That number is normal for the kind of weather the city's been having, he said.

The number of offenses has increased from 202 last year to 327 in 1983. Maxey said the increase is due to a larger number of reports from private crime watch groups in the city.

Some offenses, like indecent exposure, are accidental, he said.

"In the past, we've had some (men) who were jogging or just sitting around in shorts and it just fell out. But it's still indecent exposure," Maxey said.

Faculty resolution sets standard for absences

A resolution to limit the number of weeks a student who is involved in university activities is allowed to miss classes was devised to determine what a reasonable number of absences is, a UNL accounting professor said.

Richard Metcalf, a member of the UNL Faculty Senate, submitted the proposal passed at Tuesday's senate meeting. The resolution states that "any extracurricular program be discontinued as a university-sanctioned program if it schedules activities requiring a student to be absent for more than three weeks during a semester."

"I was surprised it passed," Metcalf said Thursday. The coaches whose activities would be affected by the resolution were notified about it before Tuesday's meeting, Metcalf said.

The resolution will cause leaders of various university programs to consider when to schedule their events, Metcalf said. He added that, according to UNL's administrative policy, there is no such thing as an excused absence.

The three-week figure was an arbitrary limit, to be used as a benchmark, Metcalf said.

"Anything more than three weeks and you've gone beyond the bounds of giving an education," he said.

As faculty senate liaison for the athletic committee, Metcalf said he has received a number of complaints from instructors whose students were missing class as a result of their involvement in athletics.

"Now we're saying how much is too much," Metcalf said. "This was not done maliciously, against any particular area of the university. We're interested in people getting their degrees."



Staff photo by Craig Anderson

Zzzzzzz...

Terry Kurtenbach, a junior in the College of Business Administration, gets some shuteye Thursday afternoon on a bench near the Sheldon Art Gallery.

MASA hopes to have louder voice in university affairs, politics

By Teri Sperry

UNL's Mexican-American students want to be heard.

Tom Urdiales, newly elected co-chairman of the Mexican-American Students Association, said one of the group's main objectives this year is to have a voice in the Culture Center debate. MASA will have a special meeting Monday to exchange ideas with members of the task force Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs Richard Armstrong formed last year to examine alternative locations for the center, he said.

"We want to know what is holding up the decision-making process," Urdiales, a junior advertising major, said.

Pete Urdiales, an active member and past chairman of MASA, said the group found the center's present Q Street location unsatisfactory when they had meetings at it during the 1982-83 school year.

"It's cramped and noisy... and now that they're planning to move the minority affairs offices into the building, it will be even worse," he said.

MASA members have shown their willingness to give input to move the Culture Center to a more adequate location, but they have been ignored, he said. They hope Monday's meeting will break ground for MASA's involvement in important issues on and off campus.

The organization also has plans to become more active in UNL politics this year, he said. They have invited black and Native American students to their meetings and hope to establish good working relationships with Asian and Latin American student organizations.

"In the past three years, the CAP office has fragmented the power of minority groups, so that they were only able to work on small problems, instead of the really important ones. We intend to cooperate with all student groups.

"If we could get the black athletes on campus to take a stand on our side, the regents would immediately vote to build a big, beautiful Culture Center right there at Broyhill Fountain," he said.

Pete said he believes the UNL community has misconceptions that MASA is "a bunch of trouble-makers."

"Our main purpose," he said, "is to help Mexican-Americans graduate... Anything we do has to revolve around getting out, preparing for life in the outside world."

Pete, a business major, said one important function of MASA is to provide tutoring for its members. Deborah Cutcliff, coordinator of the university's Education Learning Center, will present a study skills workshop for the group during this semester. MASA will sponsor a public Halloween dance Oct. 29 and Chicano Awareness Days in April.

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