

# GLC hopes to block drinking bill

By Sara Thomassen

Only statistics, research and the possibility of saving lives are involved in considering a raise in the drinking age, not ethics, said Sen. William Nichol of Scottsbluff.

However, many UNL students oppose the legislation.

"I can see the point with drunken driving, but anyone who doesn't know their limit is stupid," said UNL freshman Chris Evans, who would be affected by the change. "If you can fight for your country and die for your country, you should be able to drink in your country."

The UNL Government Liaison Committee is optimistic about the possibility of blocking the bill.

GLC lobbyist Ruth Boham said the committee's strongest argument will be that the bill will have little effect since Nebraska's neighbors have lower drinking ages.

Andy Carothers, GLC legislative vice-chairman, agreed with Boham.

"GLC recognizes there is a problem with alcohol, but LB56 is not the solution," Carothers said. "In actuality it might put more teenagers... driving to

neighboring states under the influence."

Evans said he thought the bill was unfair. "We can vote, be drafted and get married at 18, but we can't sit in a bar until we're 21," Evans said. "They treat us like an adult on one hand and turn around and say we don't know right from wrong when it comes to drinking, like a child."

Jon Linder, an 18-year-old non-drinking freshman, said the inconsistent ages at which one is labeled an adult are annoying.

"The best thing to do would be to decide an age when a person would be considered an adult, completely, an age when everybody is legal for everything," Linder said. He supported a national drinking age to settle the dispute.

Maura Kenny, a 19-year-old sophomore, said she would support raising the drinking age only if it would reduce the number of traffic deaths.

"I don't see how raising it from 20 to 21 is going to affect the fatalities of teenagers," Kenny said.

UNL senior Les Greer, 27, said that although 20-year-olds would not be able to go to bars, they still would continue to drink.

"The session is so short," Boham said. "I would rather see our state legislators spend time on other policy items."

# Off The Wire

National and international news from the Reuter News Report

## Shultz: No movement toward return to talks

STOCKHOLM, Sweden — Secretary of State George Shultz said Thursday there was no progress toward resumption of East-West nuclear arms talks at his five-hour meeting Wednesday with Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko. "There was absolutely no movement," Shultz said about the suspended Geneva discussions on reducing nuclear missiles. Asked if the talks signaled a thaw in East-West relations, Shultz said, "The future will tell on that."

## Walesa welcomes eased sanctions

WARSAW, Poland — Solidarity founder Lech Walesa Thursday welcomed the easing of U.S. economic sanctions against Poland but reiterated that he favored removal of all Western sanctions against his country.

"I am satisfied with the decision of the U.S. government..." Walesa said by telephone from his home in the Baltic port of Gdansk. But he added, "I was in favor of lifting all the sanctions against Poland, of financial assistance and things like that." He said Western restrictions risked causing Poland serious harm. Reagan imposed the sanctions in retaliation for the imposition of martial law by Polish authorities in 1981.

## Quadriplegic suffers setback

SAN FRANCISCO — Quadriplegic Elizabeth Bouvia suffered a setback Thursday in her long-running campaign to starve herself to death when the California Supreme Court rejected her appeal against being forcibly fed. The 26-year-old Bouvia, a victim of cerebral palsy who says she is tired of living in a "useless body," wants to commit suicide by starvation under medical care at the hospital in Riverside, near Los Angeles, where she has been since last September. The hospital has refused to allow this and she has been force-fed since late December.

A one-sentence ruling by the State Supreme Court in San Francisco refused Bouvia's request for an order that would allow the force-feeding to be stopped. Lawyers for Bouvia are expected to make further appeals.

## Stockman says cuts not possible

NEW YORK — President Reagan's Budget Director David Stockman says he does not believe it is possible for any U.S. administration to make any more big cuts in federal spending, even in the face of enormous deficits. Stockman said in the latest issue of Fortune magazine that the idea that government spending could be cut by rooting out waste, fraud and abuse was a fantasy.

"Some still think there are vast pockets of fraud, waste and abuse out there. In fact, nearly every stone has been turned over," the director of the Office of Management and Budget said in a rare, on-the-record interview. His view ran counter to recent conclusions of Reagan's so-called Grace Commission, which said the government could save billions of dollars by cleaning up wasteful programs.

## Eighty-three dead in mine disaster

TOKYO — Eighty-three miners died in a fire in an undersea shaft in one of Japan's worst mine disasters, police said Thursday. Police and relatives of the dead criticized the mine owner over a delay in seeking outside help to deal with the blaze in the Mitsui Mi-Ike Mine on the west of the southern island of Kyushu. According to the police, most of the victims died of carbon monoxide poisoning. Thirteen workers were rescued and hospitalized. About 600 miners escaped after the fire began, apparently in the shaft conveyor belt Wednesday afternoon, but nearly 100 others were trapped several miles from the pithead at a point about 600 feet under the sea.

Safety officials said Thursday they were not informed of the situation until two hours after the fire started. A police official told Reuters that police first heard the news from a television report.

# Police Report

The following incidents were reported to the UNL Police Department between midnight and 10 p.m. Wednesday.

12:41 a.m. — Person reported tampering with emergency phones at Hamilton Hall. Person had left when officers arrived.

8:30 a.m. — Traffic accident reported at 11th

Street and Avery Avenue. Officers assisted the Lincoln Police Department.

9:40 a.m. — Hold-up alarm reportedly malfunctioned on City Campus.

11:30 a.m. — Parking permit reported lost or stolen off campus.

3:08 p.m. — Wallet reported stolen from vending area in the Nebraska

Union. Estimated loss is \$35.

3:29 p.m. — Cash reported stolen from Abel food service area. Amount of loss is unknown.

4:14 p.m. — Cash reported stolen from women's restroom at Abel Hall food service. Estimated loss is \$17.

4:48 p.m. — Wallet re-

ported lost or stolen between Schramm Hall and the Coliseum. Estimated loss is \$128.

5:12 p.m. — Ring reported lost on City Campus.

6:43 p.m. — Attempted theft reported from coin-operated machine in women's restroom in the Engineering Center. Nothing was reported stolen.

10:18 p.m. — Accident reported at 43rd and Starr streets. No report was filed.



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