

# Daily Nebraskan

Tuesday, April 17, 1984

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Vol. 83 No. 139



Therese Stanton  
Craig Andresen/Daily Nebraskan

## Defining pornography problem leads to new legal approach

By Mona Z. Koppelman

Problems with prosecuting pornography cases often center on finding an acceptable definition of pornography, and deciding whether pornographic materials fall under constitutional free speech guarantees.

Supreme Court Justice Potter Stewart said in 1964 that he "couldn't define it, but that he knows it when he sees it."

Minneapolis activists framed a law defining pornography and tangible, detrimental effects on women. The law allows victims of abuse resulting from the distribution of pornography to file a civil suit and collect damages.

Jeanne Barkey and Therese Stanton, both from the Minnesota Pornographic Resource Center, spoke at the Nebraska Union Rostrum Monday as part of Women's Week activities. Barkey and Stanton discussed the effects of pornography in general and the development of the Minneapolis law specifically.

Barkey said the law defines pornography as "the sexually explicit subordination of women, graphically depicted in pictures or words." The law describes nine common portrayals of subordination. Four legal claims of discrimination can be made:

- coercion into performing for pornography

- forcing pornography on a person
- assault or physical attack due to pornography
- trafficking in pornography.

Stanton said pornography needs to be separated from erotica, which the statute defines as "sexually explicit material based on equality, respect, choice and freedom to leave a relationship."

"Men hide behind abuse, naming it free speech and sexual freedom," Stanton said. "Pornography says we like to be tortured because pain for us is pleasure... that force is sexy."

Barkey and Stanton presented a slide show depicting violence against women found in hard and soft core porn — Hustler and Playboy, for example — and in mainstream media advertising campaigns.

Some mediums use violence against women subtly, Barkey said. She said certain items are "staples" in pornographic photographs, all with underlying inferences.

"High-heeled shoes show vulnerability," Barkey said. "We can't walk very well, they're uncomfortable, unstable and therefore erotic."

Testimony at hearings before the city council approved the statute seemed to indicate correlation between viewing of pornographic materials and abusive behavior toward women, Barkey said.

The council passed the law on a 7-6 vote with one abstention, but it was vetoed by the mayor and is in committee for further consideration.

Stanton said the Indianapolis city council voted on a similar statute Monday and other cities are considering the civil law approach.

"What we need to do is to get people out on the street organizing at the grass roots level," Stanton said. "We have to force this on people who make policy in this country."

## Reward is \$300 for info on car

The UNL administration is offering a \$300 reward for information leading to the arrest of a person accused of overturning a Chevrolet Chevette late Thursday night in Parking Area 16 at 15th and S streets. The Daily Nebraskan incorrectly reported Monday that the reward was \$3,000.

To report information, people should call Crimestoppers at 475-3600. Callers will remain anonymous.

## Make Big Red proud or UNL - a Nobel future?

# Regents hopeful accents his fiscal responsibility

Editor's note: This is the first in a three-part series about the campaign for the NU Board of Regents District 1 seat.

By Stacie Thomas

Don Geis, 2425 Calvert St., said he sees room for improvement at the University of Nebraska and he wants to help make those improvements. Geis is running for election to the District 1 NU Board of Regents seat. The seat is presently held by Edward Schwartzkopf, 2020 Park Ave., who is running for re-election.

Geis said he decided to run for regent because he would like to see the university become a stronger institution.

"We already have the top football and gymnastics coaches, why can't the university get a Nobel Prize-winning professor?" Geis asked.

Geis said one of his goals as regent would be to make the university one that the football team could be proud of. He said he would also like to see more evening classes offered so people with full-time jobs and families would be able to take classes.

Geis owns the Don Geis Investments and Insurance Co., and said his experience in business will help him deal with the fiscal responsibilities of regent. He said he would operate under the philosophy that spending must be justified.

Geis said many people have called him to ask if he posed as a person connected with the regents while collecting UNL faculty opinions in a telephone poll. Geis said he didn't.

Jim Raglin, NU director of public affairs, said a recent telephone poll of faculty opinions was conducted and that the person asking the questions referred to it as being sponsored by the Board of Regents. Raglin said the poll was not sponsored by the Board of Regents and he does not know who is conducting the poll.

Geis said he hopes to meet with faculty, staff, students and taxpayers in the next few months to find out about what their university concerns. The regent primary and election are May 15 and Nov. 13, the same times as the presidential primary and election.



Craig Andresen/Daily Nebraskan

## Right on par...

Neal Schoening, a UNL freshman business major, gives the Harper-Schramm-Smith putting greens a workout during Monday's 60-degree weather.

## Tuesday

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