Crash kills student

A UNL student and his three children were killed in a two-car accident early Tuesday morning on Missouri Interstate 29, authorities said.

Johnny E. Ikomi, 38, his 8-yearold son, Temple and 2-year-old twins, Tosan and Elii, were killed when their car was struck in the rear and caught fire, said Cpl. Gary Dusenderg of the Missouri State Highway Patrol.

Ikomi's 32-year-old wife, Taiwo, was taken to Heartland East Hospital in St. Joseph, Mo., where she was treated for cuts and bruises Tuesday afternoon.

The car Ikomi was driving was struck in the rear by a car driven by James D. Scrivener of Dearborn, Mo., the patrol said.

Ikomi's car was stopped or moving slowly as it approached a blinking yellow sign indicating that the left

lane was closed ahead.

Dusenderg said Ikomi's car traveled into the median and caught fire. The car driven by Scrivener ran off the right side of the road. Scrivener suffered cuts and bruises, but was not seriously injured.

Charges against Scrivener are pending an investigation, Dusenderg

Fire apparently caused the four deaths, according to the patrol report.

Peter S. Levitov, director of the UNL international educational services, said lkomi had a bachelor's degree and was looking for a graduate program. Ikomi, a native of Warri, Nigeria, reportedly was in Fayettesville, Ark., looking at the University of Arkansas' graduate program.

"He was determined to get a master's degree before he returned home (to Warri)," Levitov said.

Education, brain drain forum topics

Gubernatorial hopefuls debate

By Linda Hartmann Staff Reporter

Five gubernatorial candidates presented their positions Tuesday on eduof a state-funded student aid program. said.

The three republican and two democratic candidates spoke at the Nebraska State Student Association's legislative forum in the Nebraska Union. They agreed that adequate funding for higher education should be a governor's high priority. But they had different approaches to providing the money.

Democrat Dave Domina said the key to high quality education is a strong economic base. An improved state economy, Domina said, would make needed education money available and provide people with more educational opportunities.

Democrat Chris Beutler said his eightyear record in the state Legislature shows his support of education. Education would be his first priority, he said, lature to make sure it is properly it." funded.

ces, such as a state lottery.

Republican Roger Yant said he would like to see the state provide less money economic development and agricultuand use what is saved for education.

The Legislature's 50th anniversary

will be celebrated at the State Legisla-

tive Reform Symposium, which starts

discussions about the operation and

effectiveness of the one-house Legisla-

The three-day symposium includes

today at The Cornhusker Hotel.

By James M. Lillis

Staff Reporter

"We've got to start cutting back on for these graduates. our government," he said. For example, he said, the state payroll has grown by can do the same jobs in other states for \$100 million in the last three years. This money would be better spent on cation, brain-drain and the possibility the state's colleges and university, he

> Yant also proposed that the state use a lottery and video slot machines to generate money.

> Republican Everett Sileven said that although state government is reponsible for providing a healthy economic climate for education, educational responsibility rests with parents and individuals.

> Some areas of the university need to be cut, Sileven said.

"A university does not have to teach everything in order to be a university,"

Republican Kermit Brashear said education would be a high priority in his administration.

"It's the cornerstone of the foundation of the house we're trying to build," and he would "haggle" with the Legis- he said. "It's basic and we must have

The candidates also addressed the To provide this money, Beutler said, Nebraska "brain drain." A recent NSSA the state may need to reallocate re- survey showed that 75 percent of unisources from other state agencies, raise versity and state college students are taxes and begin external revenue sour- not committed to staying in Nebraska gram now. after graduation.

ral revitalization to provide more jobs college students, he said.

Yant agreed, saying many graduates

A homestead program, Sileven said, is the answer to the brain drain. His program would allow thousands of young people to stay in the state in farming lifestyles, he said.

Brashear said Nebraska's high taxes discourage businesses and employees. He proposed offering businesses incentives for hiring new graduates.

Domina said he would like to give businesses tax incentives for locating in Nebraska and offer a job training program for non-college graduates.

Each candidate also gave his opinion of a state-supported student aid

Yant said if the state used 2,000 video slot machines, it could raise \$60-\$80 million a year for a student aid

Sileven said he would only support state loans, not grants, to students.

Student aid is attractive, Brashear said, but first the state needs a stronger economic base to fund such programs.

Domina agreed and said he wasn't sure the state could afford such a pro-

Beutler said the lack of a state scho-Beutler said the state must foster larship program is a social injustice. The state should definitely fund aid for

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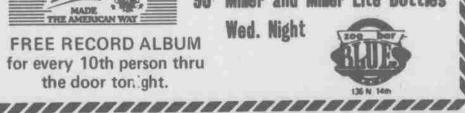
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needs to be done," he said. Former Nebraska Gov. Norbert Tiemann will speak Wednesday evening. ture, as well as state legislative com- Other featured speakers are state Sen. out-of-state speakers and apply their

specialists. "It's risky, but it's something that

mittees, decision-making and politics. Vard Johnson and former U.S. Rep. John findings to their own areas of study.

Symposium to evaluate Legislature Robert Sittig, a UNL political science Cavanaugh. Both will speak Thursday.

professor, said the most important There also will be a roundtable disthing about the conference is the cussion Thursday of the unicameral objective evaluation of the Legislature's experiment, and panelists will discuss effectiveness by U.S. political science state legislative committees and decision-making.

On Friday, panelists will discuss legislative policies and compare the Legislature with those in other states. UNL speakers will compare notes with

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