



Paul Vonderlage/Daily Nebraskan

Boosalis

Challenges face state, Boosalis says

Decisions made in the next four years are critical to the future of Nebraska and its people, Democratic gubernatorial candidate Helen Boosalis said Saturday.

Boosalis headlined the Nebraska State Democratic Party Convention at the Lincoln Hilton Hotel.

"We know the challenges facing us: We know our farmers and ranchers are hurting, that we need a fair and equitable tax system, that quality jobs need to be created, and that excellence in education must become a reality," she said. "But Nebraskans have a candidate who loves a challenge!"

Boosalis said she believes everyone in Nebraska deserves to share the benefits not of the good life, but the best life.

"Our greatest natural resource is our people," she said.

Boosalis said she wants progress but not by sacrificing people, opportunities for farmers, or surrendering to out-of-state corporations.

"This is a campaign of choices," she said. "We can choose to criticize, or we can choose to build. We can choose to nip at the heels, or we can choose to set the pace. We can choose to moan and groan about the present situation, or we can choose to present a positive program for Nebraska's future."

'Hail Mary' controversy continues

By Chris McCubbin
Staff Reporter

U.S. District Judge Warren K. Urbom's ruling on Thursday that the Sheldon Film Theatre must schedule the film "Hail Mary" has provoked a full spectrum of responses locally, from condemnation, to full approval, to a guarded "wait and see" attitude.

In an Associated Press article Urbom said, "It was not the fact of the controversy that caused the cancellation of 'Hail Mary'; it was that the prospect of a religious battle in the uneasy political setting of the time — already penciled in by prior legislative cuts and underlined by an individual senator's warnings — threatened the peace and stability of the Sheldon Gallery.

"Even if the cause had been only the fact of controversy, however, cancellation would not have been justified, because action taken by an arm of the state merely to avoid controversy from the expression of ideas is an insufficient basis for interfering with the right to receive information."

Later in the decision Urbom said, "(Omaha) Sen. (Bernice) Labeledz was not merely speaking as a private citizen: She purposely used her position as

a legislator who had a hand on the financial throat of the Sheldon Gallery to prevent the showing of the film ..."

In an addendum to the decision Urbom said he had received a petition "signed by many" people concerning the case. "Lawsuits are not matters for resolution by petition," Urbom said.

Labeledz's office could not be reached for comment Monday.

The Rev. Jim Dawson of Lincoln's Catholic Chancery called the decision "very poor" and said he was disappointed. Dawson said "Hail Mary" was an insult to Catholics and most Christians. He said Urbom's decision may open the possibility of similar films insulting other religion and minorities.

Dawson said that in some cities the showing of "Hail Mary" has been opposed by the Jewish organization B'nai B'rith. That organization "sees the handwriting on the wall," Dawson said.

The suit was filed by two patrons of the Sheldon Theatre under the auspices of the Nebraska Civil Liberties Union. John Taylor of the NCLU said the organization was very pleased with the decision and pleased that the matter was handled quickly. Taylor said he hopes the matter will not continue in the form of an appeal.

Taylor said Urbom's decision was

significant, in that it sent a "very clear signal" to "certain legislators" about government interference in the arts.

Sheldon director George Neubert, who made the decision to cancel the film, could not be reached for comment. Dan Ladely, director of the Sheldon Film Theatre, had no comment on the decision. Ladely said he had no way to tell when the film might be scheduled.

John C. Wiltse of the UNL legal staff said that UNL was considering the possibility of an appeal to Urbom's decision, but that there was no definite plan to appeal at this time. The UNL administration has no statement to make about the decision at this time, Wiltse said.

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Police Report

Friday, June 27

8:21 a.m. — Theft of bike from Harper/Schramm/Smith.

11:52 a.m. — Non-injury accident in Abel fire lane.

5:25 a.m. — Car fire in Parking Area 15, 11th and Q streets.

6:50 p.m. — Medical emergency, injury, recreation field at 19th and Vine.

10:39 p.m. — Fire alarm at Schramm Hall. Overheated engine.

Saturday, June 28

2:12 a.m. — Arrested two people for stealing bike at 15th and U to S streets.

Sunday, June 29

12:57 a.m. — DWI at 14th and Avery streets.

2:13 a.m. — Emergency phone stolen from Parking Area 3 at New Hampshire St.

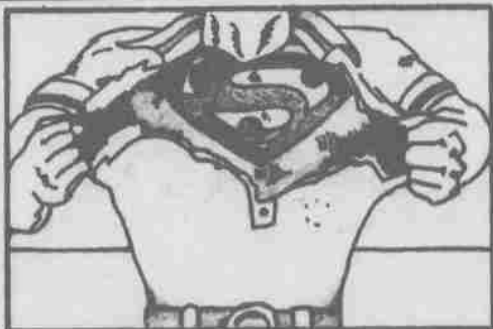
10:16 a.m. — Two people arrested for stealing a bike off campus.

4:27 p.m. — Theft of miscellaneous personal items at Bob Devaney Sports Complex.

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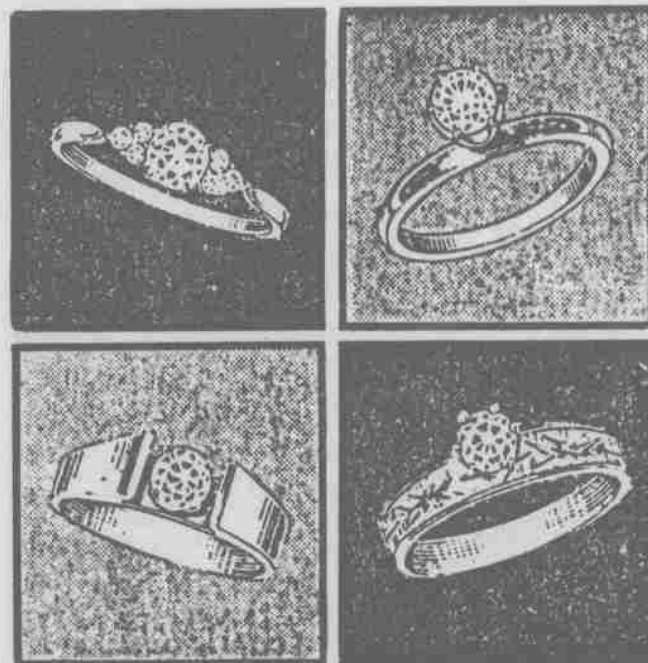


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