

Attack made up for attention

UNL student says earlier incident prompted him to seek justice

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Mulford said the Nov. 6 incident did occur, but his report of the knife attack in the union and another attack filed with the LPD were false. He said he made up the two false reports because he was trying to make sure the case would be solved. He said he took it too far.

Mulford said when he made up the attack he was experiencing anxiety and depression. He said he had been to a hospital and was on medication to alleviate his stress.

He said he wanted to gain the attention of the police and everyone else by making up the attacks.

"Yes, I did thrive on the attention," Mulford said.

He said he was "gay-bashed" (attacked) by several men with sticks and rocks while he was living in Colorado, but did not report the incidents to police. He said he decided that this time he wasn't going to let the incident go unnoticed.

These were the same reasons for filing a false report on Friday afternoon, Nov. 7.

Mulford said he told officers from the Lincoln Police Department that he was walking near his house when "a guy pushed me down, said faggot a bunch of times," punched him several times, took his wallet and tried to take his pants off. Mulford said he told police it was the same man who had threatened him at his home the day

before.

Lt. Albert Maxey, LPD duty commander, said that as of last Wednesday Mulford hasn't been ticketed for filing false reports, but it is being considered.

Jedlicka said she is not sure why she was ticketed by the UNL police because she didn't know the report was false.

The night of the alleged attack in the union, Jedlicka said, she followed a man that matched Mulford's description of the alleged attacker and then told the UNL police. She said this could be the reason she was cited.

UNL Cpl. Douglas Petersen said the police reports on the incident are confidential and cannot be released yet.

Bell and Jedlicka both said they didn't know the attacks were faked until almost a week after they were reported.

Although Jedlicka said neither she nor Bell knew the incident was false, it will affect the credibility of GLSA. Bell said he was upset by the false reports because it implied that he was involved.

Anti-gay violence only the 'tip of the iceberg'

By Jen Deselms
Senior Reporter

Kevin Berrill, director of the anti-violence project for the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, said people shouldn't conclude from the false reports that violence against gays does not occur. Violence is a problem Berrill said, and most victims never report violence to the police and seldom talk about it even with friends.

Some gays and lesbians have been victims of harassment throughout their whole lives, Berrill said. These people have grown accustomed to the violence and stop being angry about it because they consider it a part of their life, he said.

John Taylor, executive director of the Nebraska Civil Liberties Union, said the NCLU frequently receives phone calls from gays and lesbians who have experienced violent acts, but they don't know how much harassment homosexuals experience. The people that call his office are

only the "tip of the iceberg," Taylor said.

A study done by the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force says that many gays and lesbians are physically and verbally assaulted because of their sexual orientation.

The 1984 study of 2,100 gays and lesbians in eight U.S. cities says that more than 1 in 5 gay men and nearly 1 in 10 lesbians have been punched, hit, kicked or beaten because of their sexual orientation.

Forty percent of the people surveyed said they had received threats of violence, and 90 percent said they had been victimized in some way (verbally, through vandalism, arson, etc.) for being gay.

Berrill said it's important that the college community publicly condemn all forms of harassment against gays. He said government response to gays' problems has been inadequate. Most gays are treated like second-class citizens, Berrill said, but that is beginning to improve in some communities.

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