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Hero status doesn't suit UNL policeman

By David Holloway
Senior Reporter

If anyone ever had the chance to be a hero, Bryan Kratochvil, would be the first to turn it down.

Kratochvil, 24, a University of Nebraska-Lincoln police officer, saved the life of 5-year-old Christopher Smillie from a fire at 3272 Starr St. last Thursday.

Although Kratochvil said he would do the same thing again under the circumstances, he doesn't consider himself a hero.

"I was in the right place at the right time," Kratochvil said. "I couldn't just stand around and



Kratochvil

watch."

Christopher's brother Nicholas, 2, died as a result of smoke inhalation. Their mother, Elizabeth Smillie, 22, and brother Ryan, 11-months, are listed in critical condition at Saint Elizabeth Community Health Center.

Kratochvil was off duty when the incident occurred at 11 a.m. last Thursday. He said he was driving through the Nebraska Center parking lot when he saw smoke coming over the tops of the trees.

Kratochvil said he parked his car and ran to the scene where he saw 12 to 15 people standing in front of an apartment with smoke coming from the basement apartment.

"People were hollering that there were still children in there," Kratochvil said. "When I heard the children cry, I knew I had to go in."

Kratochvil said he entered the

building and went to the lower level of the apartment complex where he met Steve Lopez, who was carrying a flashlight and had already attempted to rescue the family.

Kratochvil said Lopez deserves more credit than himself.

"As far as the other gentleman, there is no difference between us," Kratochvil said. "He deserves as much respect as I do. He re-entered with me every time I went in. I just came out with a child and he didn't."

Unsuccessful on his first try, Kratochvil said he and Lopez left the building to get some air and re-entered again. Kratochvil crawled on his belly the whole time.

"The one thing I kept in mind the whole time I was going in was not to go past my limits," Kratochvil said. "I knew if I collapsed, I wouldn't do anybody any good. I didn't want to make myself a victim and hamper the fire department's work."

Kratochvil said he was calling to the children in a soft voice trying to get them to come to him.

"I was real exhausted, but I felt like I could reach out and touch them," Kratochvil said.

Kratochvil said he saw Christopher Smillie's leg about 4 feet in front of him through the smoke. He grabbed it and pulled Smillie out of the room.

After leaving the building, Kratochvil said somebody took the child from him. He said he sat down to catch his breath and passed out. He was later treated and released from St. Elizabeth Hospital for smoke inhalation.

Kratochvil, a member of the UNL police force for 10 months, said he had not been trained for fire and rescue in his police training. Kratochvil attributed his knowledge of fire and rescue to his father,

Eugene Kratochvil, who has been a volunteer fireman in Ulysses for more than 20 years.

"After I thought about it, it was stupid to run into a burning building," Kratochvil said. "But when I heard the kids, I knew I had to go. My dad would have done the same thing."

Kratochvil said he was concerned more with the family's safety than his own.

Kratochvil said others should be recognized, too.

"You think this is a special thing, but those firemen do it everyday," Kratochvil said. "What I saw was more heroic than anything I ever did. I take my hat off to them."

Kratochvil said he felt good about what he did, but felt bad for the little boy who died.

"Until the day I die, I'll never forget it," Kratochvil said. "If I had to do it again I wouldn't do anything different, I did my best."

Dr. Safe Sex says: Nebraskans taking sexual risks

By Victoria Ayotte
Senior Reporter

Nebraskans face extra risk in contracting sexually transmitted diseases because they deny the reality of the diseases and frequently don't practice safe sex, Clark Taylor told about 30 people in the Nebraska Union Saturday.

Taylor, a professor at San Francisco State University and the Institute for Advanced Study of Human Sexual Behavior, was at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln to give a workshop on safe sex. The event was sponsored by the Gay/Lesbian Student Association.

Taylor, whose nickname is "Dr. Safe Sex," said he felt "a special mission" in speaking to Nebraskans because of their denial of the need for safe sex.

"Here, people are basically in fear and denial," Taylor said. "That is one of the most explosive situations you can have."

Taylor cited the size of the audience as evidence of this fear and denial. He said that in his home in San Francisco, 600 to 800 students attend the lectures he gives.

"People in rural areas . . . are lulled into a false sense of security," he said. "We live in a battlefield."

Taylor's workshop consisted of a lecture, a multi-media presentation and a demonstration of safe sex devices.

Taylor said he tries "to give sex-positive information" and show how safe sex can be pleasurable.

Taylor first suggested the range of risk people subject themselves to.

"Most people are having sex and most of it's risky," he said. "We are losing more people from AIDS than in World War I, World War II, Korea and Vietnam put together."

The first suggestion about safe sex that Taylor suggested was knowing one's sexual partner.

He said "people lie all over the place" and that people shouldn't trust their partners to take care of the safe sex.

Reaction is favorable; audience 'more aware' after sex workshop

By Victoria Ayotte
Senior Reporter

Several people, attending Saturday's safe sex workshop by Clark "Dr. Safe Sex" Taylor at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, said they are now more aware of the need for safe sex.

"It was a real eye-opener," Brad Johnson of Lincoln said. "It put things in perspective."

Ginger Wilkenson from Lincoln agreed with Johnson.

"It showed me there are more alternatives to risky sex," she said.

Both Johnson and Wilkenson said they probably will change their sexual habits after attending the workshop, but they said the presentation had not made them any more fearful of AIDS or other

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People also don't realize that other diseases such as chlamydia and herpes are the leading ways people get Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome.

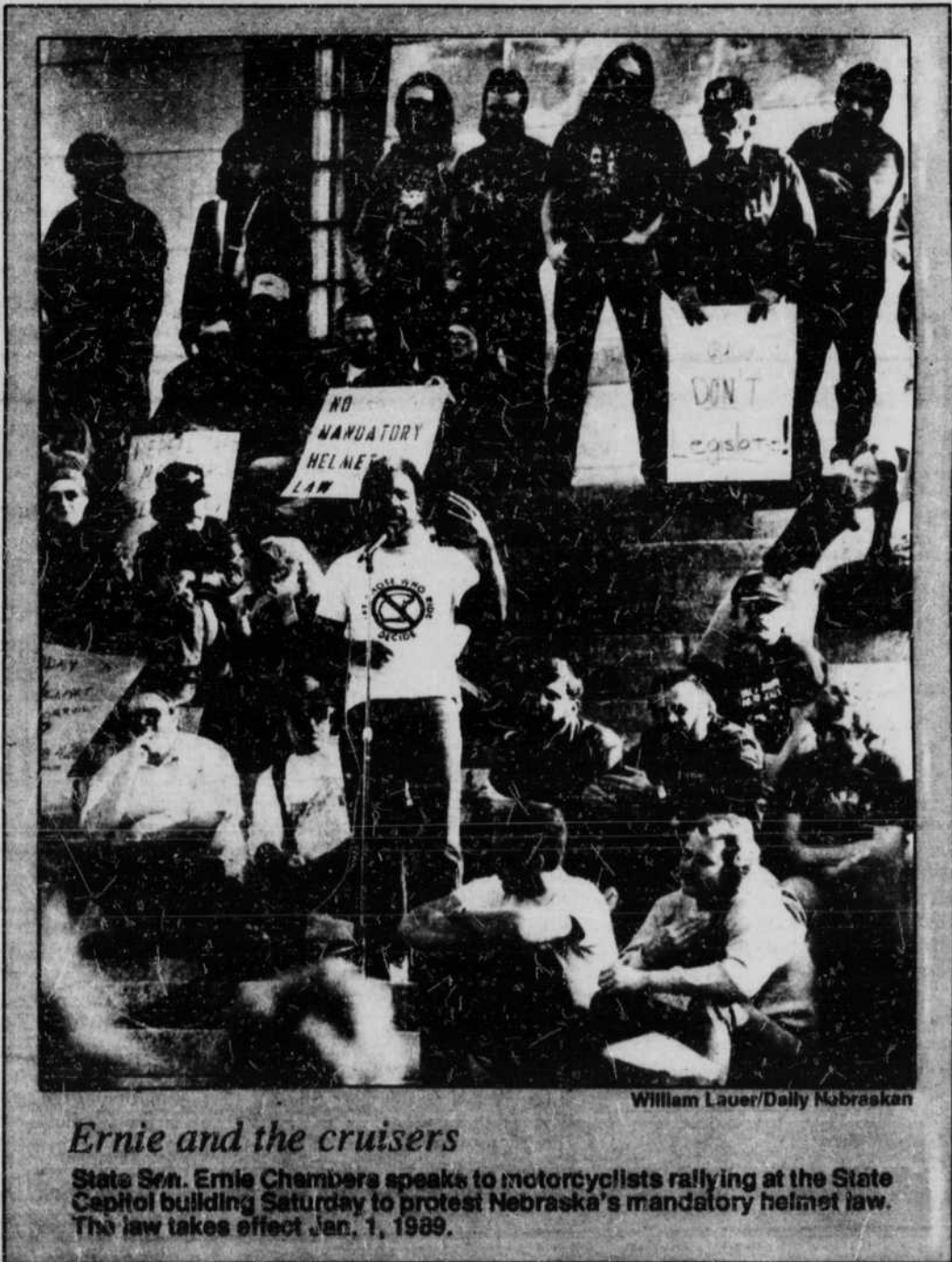
Another misconception is that people with sexual diseases look different, Taylor said. Sexual diseases sometimes have long incubation periods before signs appear.

Taylor said people can't wait for a cure for AIDS before getting information about safe sex.

"Right now is not a time to wait and see," he said. "Right now is a time to gear up."

The first step in practicing safe sex is to abandon narrow definitions of sex and include sexual methods such as looking at people in a

See DOCTOR on 5



William Lauer/Daily Nebraskan

Ernie and the cruisers

State Sen. Ernie Chambers speaks to motorcyclists rallying at the State Capitol building Saturday to protest Nebraska's mandatory helmet law. The law takes effect Jan. 1, 1989.



John Bruce/Daily Nebraskan

1984 Survey reveals rape statistics that still apply to UNL campus

By Chris Carroll
Staff Reporter

Editor's note: This is the first in a series of three articles dealing with sexual assault. October is National Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

Data from several studies on sexual aggression that were conducted on the University of Nebraska-Lincoln campus in 1984 can still be applicable today, said Helen Moore, associate professor of sociology and women's studies.

The studies reported sexual aggression that men have admitted to, places on campus women thought were unsafe, and sexual harassment and assaults suffered by students from peers and faculty, Moore said.



No report on sexual aggression representative of the overall student

population has been conducted since 1984, Moore said.

Moore and two professors who were at UNL in 1984 conducted a survey and collected data.

The Campus Security Advisory Committee used the data collected from the three studies to write summary reports. The committee was created in 1983 because of reported assaults in Love Library. It is made up of faculty and administrators.

The survey on sexual aggression by peers indicated that 17 percent of

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