

Daily Nebraskan

Wednesday

WEATHER:

Wednesday, windy and cold with flurries, high of 40 with temperatures falling by afternoon, northwest winds 15 to 35 miles per hour and gusting. Wednesday night, windy and cold with flurries, low of 10. Thursday, partly cloudy, breezy and cold, high of 25.

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University of Nebraska-Lincoln

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CIA visit instigates student demonstration

By Jana Pedersen
 Senior Reporter

Chanting "Hey hey, ho ho, the CIA has got to go," about 30 UNL students and faculty members marched in front of and through the Nebraska Union, protesting Tuesday's student recruitment efforts by the CIA.

The protest, organized by University of Nebraska-Lincoln student groups Early Warning! and the Latin American Solidarity Committee, began at about 12:30 p.m. near Broyhill Fountain where demonstrators carried mock gravestones and signs that said, "Stop U.S. terrorism," "Abolish the CIA" and "CIA - Cocaine Importing Agency."

Protestors marched in a circle and chanted, "Hey hey, CIA, how many kids did you kill today?"

The march then proceeded through the union to the second floor near the office where student recruitment interviews were taking place. There, protestors stood outside the office, continuing a "vigil" that started at 8 a.m. when CIA recruitment began Tuesday.

Seven protestors moved into the office and sat silently in the waiting room until they were asked to leave by Daryl Swanson, director of the union.

"Your being here, in my feeling, is disruptive," Swanson told the pro-

testors inside the office. "This is not a public area in my opinion."

The protestors asked Swanson to produce documentation saying they could not sit in the office, and Swanson returned with copies of the University of Nebraska policy statement on campus disorders.

A portion of the statement provides protection for university employees from interference with university operations.

According to the statement, "The university community may restrict conduct which interferes with... the discharge of responsibility by any university officer, employee, or student."

"Noise and boisterous activity are objectionable when they prevent others from exercising their rights and duties," according to the statement.

Swanson said the statement applied to the protestors' actions.

"Being inside this room is a disruption to the function of a university activity," he said.

The protestors then left the room and concluded their demonstration in the hallway outside with a song and a cheer.

"You can't forbid me everything. You can't forbid me to think. You can't forbid my tears to flow. You can't stop this song I sing," protestors sang.

Joe Bowman, ad hoc CIA project coordinator for Early Warning!, said



Al Schaben/Daily Nebraskan

Daryl Swanson (center), director of the Nebraska Union, asks supporters of Early Warning! to leave the CIA recruitment waiting room on the second floor of the union Tuesday afternoon.

the university policy statement on campus disorders means that students "can't effectively hold a demonstration."

"The way they define demonstration, by limiting them (demonstrations) by their definition, a demonstration is standing around," Bowman said. "What they have defined here is a crowd."

Ron Podwinski, a senior finance major who was waiting for an interview with another company, said the protestors didn't really bother him.

"Actually, it's entertaining," he said.

But Podwinski said that if he had been interviewing with the CIA, he might have been bothered by it.

"Students have the right to recruit

with whoever they want," he said.

Craig Morris, senior marketing major who also interviewed with another company while the protest was going on, said he wasn't aware that the CIA was recruiting.

Morris said the recruiter he interviewed with "was pretty upset" by

See DEMONSTRATE on 3



Al Schaben/Daily Nebraskan

Mark Davis, Nebraska Union Board president, talks with a representative of Valentino's Tuesday during a meeting to select one of five bidding pizza vendors to replace the dairy store in the Nebraska Union.

Visser loses sex discrimination suit Urbom rules in UNL's favor

By Jerry Guenther
 Senior Reporter

U.S. District Court Judge Warren Urbom decided in favor of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Tuesday afternoon in the case of a former academic adviser who had filed a lawsuit for, among other things, alleged sex discrimination.

Urbom's ruling on Title VII of the Civil Rights Act denies compensation to Mary Jane Visser for alleged sex discrimination by the university.

Although a seven-member District Court jury found Monday that the university was not guilty of sex discrimination, Visser still could have received back pay and compensation had Urbom ruled in her favor.

Sexual discrimination suits under Title VII must be decided by a judge.

Thom Cope, Visser's attorney, said he

thought Urbom used the jury's verdict as an advisory opinion.

"It was not unexpected," Cope said. "I would have been surprised if it had been the other way, frankly."

Cope said he filed a motion for a new trial Tuesday morning because he believes the admission of the grievance reports were prejudicial based on the federal rules of evidence.

"We felt that the admission of these reports was in error," Cope said.

If the motion for a new trial is denied, Cope said, he will consider appealing the case.

In addition to sex discrimination, Visser claimed in the suit that UNL Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs James Griesen and general studies Director Donald Gregory fired her for reporting irregularities in athletes' academic records. The jury ruled in favor of the university Monday.

Officials: Visser charges unfounded

By Chuck Green
 Senior Reporter

The recent lawsuit filed by Mary Jane Visser against the University of Nebraska-Lincoln has painted a "broadbrush picture of academic disregard at UNL," particularly where student athletes are concerned, according to one university vice chancellor.

Robert Furgason, UNL vice chancellor for academic affairs, said Tuesday that "sweeping conclusions from isolated cases" that surfaced during the trial's proceedings have had a negative impact on the academic image of the university and on Cornhusker athletes.

Furgason said he resents the allegations. "(Academic standards) are being upheld in our program," he said. "I haven't seen any evidence otherwise."

Visser, who was employed by UNL for 19 years, filed suit against James Griesen, vice chancellor for student affairs, and general studies Director Donald Gregory.

Visser claimed in her suit that she was fired Sept. 2, 1988, for uncovering irregularities in student athletes' academic records. The university said she was fired for poor job performance.

The U.S. District Court ruled Monday in favor of the university.

The way in which the trial was presented, Furgason said, portrayed UNL's athletic department as an "involved element" in the case.

Visser's early testimony included allegations of special academic treatment of UNL athletes.

"I have never detected that student athletes have ever gotten special treatment," he said.

Furgason dismissed Visser's claims, saying they were based on "isolated incidents." One such incident centered on a healthy lifestyles class UNL offered during the summer of 1988.

Two sections of the class, coordinated through the UNL School of Health, Physical Education and Recreation, were created to allow students to complete required credits to graduate at the end of the summer term.

Nebraska football coach Tom Osborne said Tuesday that because the sections did not have the certified number of students enrolled to prevent them from being cancelled, an instructor contacted Roger Grooters, UNL athletic department director of academic programs.

"He asked Roger if some athletes would like to get in," Osborne said. "It was mainly to keep the course from being cancelled."

The class originally was scheduled in a room that was without air conditioning, Osborne said, and the instructor asked permission to meet at the Hewitt Academic Center for male athletes. Osborne agreed.

Because the class was not properly advertised in the course bulletin, and because of the change of location, "it triggered a lot of suspicion of academic irregularities," Osborne said.

Furgason said the suspicion caused by the summer class was just another in a long list of "innuendoes" associated with student-athletes' academic lives.

But he said concerns about academic dishonesty are unnecessary.

"We have an ongoing program to look at all grading practices in all departments," Furgason said. "If (grading practices are) unusual, we look at them to see why they're unusual."

Student athletes, Furgason said, sometimes suffer disadvantages other students don't have to endure.

One example Furgason cited was that of differing drop/add policies.

Non-athlete students are able to drop a class if they find themselves in academic trouble, but scholarship athletes "don't have that privilege," he said, because NCAA rules require them to carry a minimum of 12 hours per semester.

Student athletes also are unable to experience the wide variety of courses other students can, Furgason said.

Non-athletes can sample classes outside their major requirements at their own discretion. But because of the Satisfactory Progress Rule, UNL athletes' progress is monitored to ensure they take classes directed toward their major.

"I'm all for that," Furgason said. "Our objective is to get all students graduated from the university. But it just is another perk athletes aren't allowed that other students are."

Osborne said the NU athletic academic standards are high. He said that since 1973, Nebraska has had 31 football players named to the academic All-America team -- the most in the nation. Stanford is second with 14, while Notre Dame and Ohio State University have nine each.

Osborne said continuous scrutiny of Nebraska's athletic department is unfair.

"Over the last two years, there has been a series of incidents where people have put us on trial, accusing us of something or other," Osborne said. "I find myself defending myself again -- it's getting a little old."