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Tuesday

WEATHER:

Tuesday, mostly sunny, high in the low- to mid-50s, breezy with southeast winds 10 to 15 miles per hour becoming south at 15 to 25 miles per hour. Tuesday night, partly cloudy, low of 25 and 30. Wednesday, partly cloudy and colder, high of 40 to 45.

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Ex-UNL employee files suit against former police officer

By Jerry Guenther
Senior Reporter

A former library security guard has filed a lawsuit in U.S. District Court against a former University of Nebraska-Lincoln police officer for alleged harassment and intimidation that he contends ended up costing him later jobs.

Raymond Mahlberg, who began working as a security guard at Love Library in January 1987, is suing Edward Mentzer and the NU Board of Regents for attorneys' fees and at least \$750,000 in damages.

According to the suit, Mahlberg was working in Love Library in May 1987 when he discovered that a door in the library that had been forcibly opened.

Mahlberg then notified the UNL Police Department, which dispatched Mentzer to investigate the incident, the suit alleges.

Mentzer then concluded "without probable cause," according to the suit, that Mahlberg had himself committed the break-in.

Mentzer brought Mahlberg to UNL police headquarters where he was interrogated for more than two hours, the suit alleges.

Mahlberg was not notified of his rights and Mentzer refused to allow him to contact an attorney, the suit alleges.

After Mahlberg notified Mentzer that he would either have to be arrested or he was leaving, Mahlberg

left police headquarters, according to the suit.

The Lancaster County Attorney's office later informed Mentzer that no action would be taken against Mahlberg, and Mentzer began undertaking an independent investigation into Mahlberg's background, including accessing his academic and personnel records at UNL, the suit alleges.

Mahlberg contends, according to the suit, that he was fired as a security guard because of statements that Mentzer made to his supervisor.

During his investigation, Mentzer allegedly contacted some of Mahlberg's friends, classmates and co-workers to solicit evidence of possible wrongdoing that Mahlberg committed, the suit says.

Mentzer later had a search warrant issued so he could search Mahlberg's home for a specific floppy disc or discs, the suit alleges, although Mentzer should have known that "the facts set forth in his affidavit in support of the search were false."

The suit also says that Mentzer and a UNL police officer searched Mahlberg's house for three hours, removing about 180 floppy disks, computer program manuals, textbooks and personal notebooks.

Mentzer also checked serial numbers of Mahlberg's computer, television, stereo, guns, tools and camera equipment during the search, the suit alleges.

Upon ending the search, Mentzer

arrested Mahlberg without probable cause and took him to UNL police headquarters where he was locked in a closet for about an hour, the suit alleges.

Mahlberg later was taken to the Lincoln Police Department where Mentzer caused him to be charged with felony theft by receiving stolen property, the suit alleges.

Mahlberg also contends in his suit that Mentzer contacted a supervisor at a later job he held at the University of Nebraska Medical Center, informed the supervisor of a criminal investigation into Mahlberg's activities, which he alleges led to his subsequent firing.

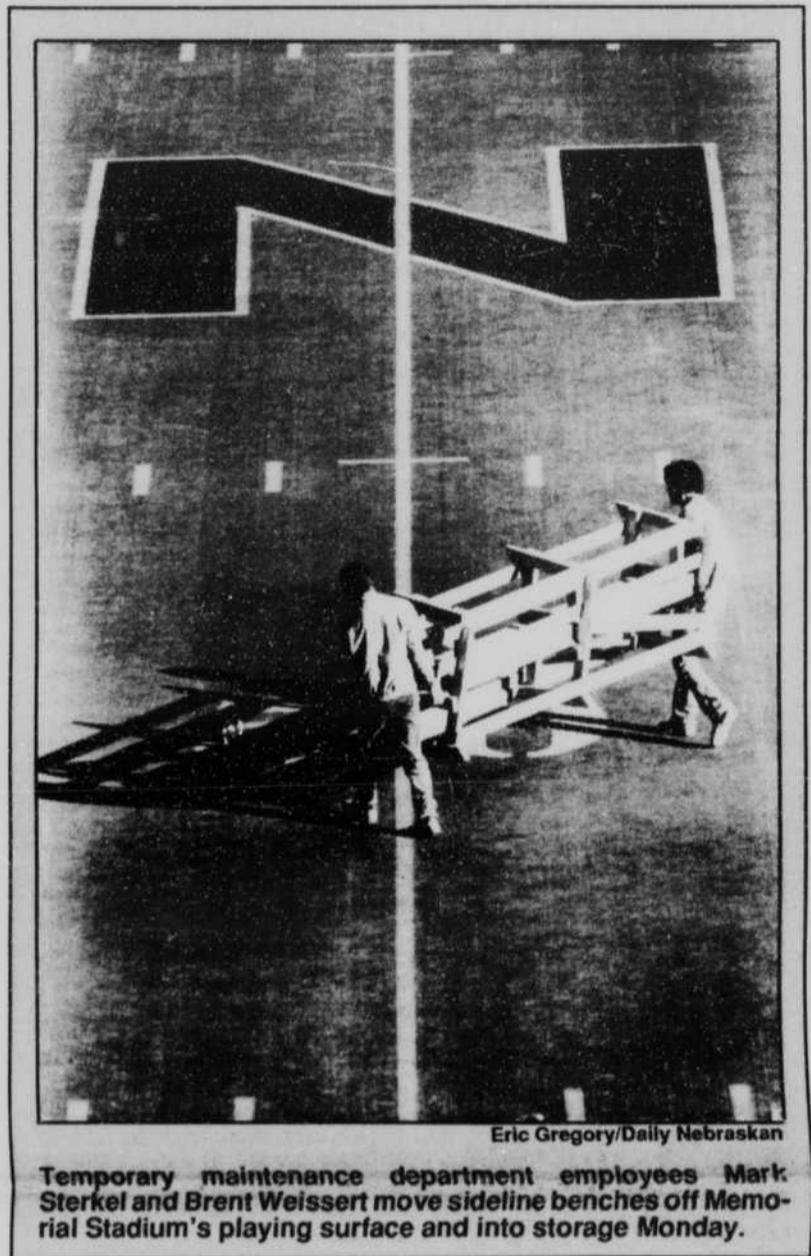
The suit also contends that Mentzer conducted a search of Mahlberg's office without a warrant and retrieved documents that Mahlberg had printed on his office computer.

Later that summer, Mentzer allegedly contacted the executive director of the Nebraska Association of Farmworkers, and notified her that Mahlberg had been arrested for a crime, the suit contends.

Mahlberg was then a member of NAF's Board of Directors, but because of Mentzer's contacts with the executive director, he was asked to resign, the suit alleges.

On Feb. 10, 1988, a district court ruled in favor of Mahlberg's motion to suppress the evidence seized dur-

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Eric Gregory/Daily Nebraskan

Temporary maintenance department employees Mark Sterkel and Brent Weissert move sideline benches off Memorial Stadium's playing surface and into storage Monday.

Chinese student criticizes Bush's motives

By Jana Pedersen
Senior Reporter

The Bush administration, which is attempting to block the passage of a bill that would make it easier for Chinese students to become U.S. citizens, is playing "geological politics," according to one University of Nebraska-Lincoln Chinese student.

Ding Liu, chairman of the UNL Chinese Students and Scholars Association, said recent attempts by the Bush administration and some members of Congress to block the passage of the bill are politically motivated.

"The Bush administration wants to sacrifice these 40,000 Chinese students for geological politics," said Ding, a physics graduate student.

A White House spokesperson issued a statement condemning the bill last weekend before it was passed by both Congress, Ding said. The bill must still be signed by President Bush.

The bill would waive the two-year waiting period usually required after visa expiration before Chinese students can apply for U.S. citizenship. Students are required to return to China during that time.

Ding said the bill is necessary to protect

Chinese students from facing retaliation for pro-democracy actions when they return to China.

Ding said about 40,000 Chinese students currently studying in the United States would be affected by the bill, Ding said similar legislation already has been passed in Canada and Australia.

The Bush administration is afraid that if the bill is adopted, it may harm relations with the Chinese government, Ding said.

Bush believes that "China has an important position in the Far East, and a good relationship between China and America is important to benefit the U.S.," Ding said. "But the Chinese government doesn't like the bill."

If Bush signs the bill, he said, it will be a "heavy blow" to China.

Ding said that approval of the bill would send a message to Chinese officials that "whenever you do things like they did this year, you will lose something, you will suffer."

"It would make the Chinese government pay for what they did in June," he said.

In June, Chinese demonstrators, mostly university students, were attacked by Chinese government troops in Tiananmen Square in

Beijing.

If garnering U.S. citizenship was easier for Chinese students, Ding said, they wouldn't have to return to China and face potential hostility.

Students who are forced to return when their visas expire will be afraid to participate in any further pro-democracy actions while they are in the United States, hurting the pro-democracy movement here, he said.

"If the bill is killed, you can no longer expect Chinese students to do anything anti-government because they will have no protection," he said.

Fear already has practically stopped the pro-democracy movement in China, he said.

"It's almost impossible to raise a voice of democracy on political and economic reform in China now," he said.

After Ding wrote a letter to his family that contained anti-government comments in June, he said, he received only a brief response that they had received the letter.

Before writing that letter, he received about one letter a month from his family, he said.

But now his family is too afraid of the government to write him back, he said.

"You know it's a poor situation... when a

family member is afraid to dare to write his son or brother," Ding said.

Because the movement can't be continued in China, he said, Chinese students abroad, the majority of whom are in the United States, must be allowed to continue it.

But they will be too afraid to continue the protest if Bush signs it, he said.

"They won't hurt themselves," he said.

The control of communications in China is another reason the movement has suffered there and another reason students in the United States should be allowed to stay, Ding said.

Because the government controls the amount and type of information allowed into China, he said, many Chinese citizens don't know how bad the situation is.

Having a line of communication open with the world outside of China will help keep democratic feelings alive there, he said.

"If 40,000 students stay abroad, it will be more difficult for the Chinese government to cut off the information flow," he said. "They can't prevent letter exchange between family members."

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Parking policies debated

By Amie DeFrain
Staff Reporter

The Parking Advisory Committee Monday discussed ways to stop holders of reserved stalls from parking in other stalls, and to allow others to park in empty reserved stalls during off hours.

The plan would create a Monday-Friday, eight-hour reserved parking permit, in addition to the 24-hour, seven-days-a-week reserved permit.

Many committee members agreed that the first reserved permits were being "misused" by faculty, students and staff members.

Ron Fuller, staff assistant to the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Police Department, said many holders are not using reserved stalls during the day because they find other stalls closer to campus.

Franz Blaha, faculty representative to the committee, said he would agree to having the new reserved stalls reserved during "business hours" and open afterward to all other permit holders.

The committee decided to discuss the matter more in the future.

A motion to convert "part of" Memorial Mall, the grass-covered area east of the Memorial Stadium, into a faculty parking lot failed.

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Officials say minimum wage increase to have little impact on UNL salaries

By Diane Brayton
Staff Reporter

Some UNL officials agree that a minimum wage increase would have a limited impact on the university because many jobs associated with the university already pay close to the proposed amount.

The minimum wage increase from \$3.35 to \$4.25 by April 1991, along with a proposed lower wage for teenagers with less than six months work experience, has passed the U.S. House of Representatives and is expected to pass the Senate before Thanksgiving.

Under this proposal, the minimum

wage will increase to \$3.80 April 1, 1990, and to \$4.25 by April 1991.

Doug Zatechka, director of housing, said wages in housing and other UNL departments "are already above that (1990) minimum."

"(Those wages) will continue to go up, too," he said.

By the time the possible \$4.25 wage is installed, "the hourly rate (on campus) will probably be above and beyond the minimum wage," Zatechka said.

Zatechka said competition for good student workers with the commercial market and other UNL offices is responsible for the present higher-than-minimum wages.

Although a federal minimum

wage increase would not directly result in higher costs for students, the resulting higher wages that offices must offer to stay competitive after 1991 could, he said.

"That means students will pay more money for housing and tuition because that money will have to cover the increased cost," he said.

Daryl Swanson, director of Nebraska Unions, said the first minimum wage increase won't have a big effect on student employees because present wages are at or close to \$3.80 now.

"The greater effect is going to be a year later," Swanson said. "That

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