

# Daily Nebraskan

Tuesday

## WEATHER

Today, mostly sunny and warmer, northwest wind 5-15 miles per hour, high in the low 50s. Tonight, clear and cold, low in the low 30s. Wednesday, mostly sunny and warmer, high 60-65.

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Butch Ireland/Daily Nebraskan

### The winning hand

Junior Pat Jilek, left, checks his hand after making the winning shot against sophomore Andy Sigerson on Monday afternoon at the NU Coliseum.

## Greek party T-shirt offends some Mexican-Americans

By Jennifer O'Cilka  
Senior Reporter

T-shirts bearing a sombrero-adorned tequila worm on the background of the Mexican flag have offended some Mexican-American students.

Florencio Flores Palomo, a junior graphic art major and Mexican-American student, said the T-shirt is "a mockery of our ancestral flag."

The Mexican flag bears the same red, white and green colors as the T-shirt, but normally has an eagle and serpent in the middle, Palomo said.

Some people may think the flag is just a flag, but it is a part of the Mexican culture he was taught as a child, Palomo said.

Ryan Downs, president of Farmhouse Fraternity, said the shirts were part of the group's "South of the Border" party.

Farmhouse, along with Alpha Chi Omega and Phi Mu sororities, were involved in the party, but the shirts originated from Farmhouse's social chairman and the Greek Shop, Downs said.

The shirts were in no way meant to be offensive, he said.

"We wouldn't turn something out that we thought would offend people," Downs said. "From our standpoint, it

was not a shot at Mexican individuals."

But, Downs said, the house has learned from the experience and will try to avoid similar situations in the future.

"We had more shirts on order and canceled them," he said.

Downs said the house appreciated the input from the Mexican-American students. And, he said, house members apologized for offending the Mexican-American students.

Robert Dvrol Jr., vice president of Farmhouse, wrote a letter to the Daily Nebraskan apologizing for the shirts.

Palomo said he and seven other Mexican-American students also wrote a letter to the Daily Nebraskan.

The fraternity and sororities had a right under the First Amendment to print the T-shirts, Palomo said, but he wanted to let them know the shirts are offensive.

"They had the right to do it, and they have the right to do it next year," he said. "We just want to tell them that's offensive and degrading to the culture."

Palomo said he thinks the shirts' designer was not aware that it would be offensive.

Anyone may attend Mexican-

See T-SHIRT on 3

## \$1,000 reward offered

# Wave of residence hall arson alarms officials

By Adeana Leftin  
Staff Reporter

A rash of fires in the residence halls is alarming UNL officials.

Eight fires were started in university residence halls this weekend, said Sgt. Mylo Bushing of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Police Department.

In Cather Residence Hall, one outside and three bathroom trash barrels

were set on fire. Abel had four bathroom fires, Bushing said.

Damage to the residence halls has totaled about \$73, he said. The destruction has been to the paint behind the garbage cans and to the garbage cans themselves, Bushing said.

"They got to them (the fires) before there was any real smoke damage," he said.

Bushing said, "Naturally we are trying to find out who's doing it, but we're not going to say what we'll be

doing."

At this point, Bushing said, no one has been caught.

"There are some individuals we will be contacting," he said.

Doug Zatechka, director of university housing, said a flier was distributed to all hall residents to alert them of the problem and to offer a reward for turning in the arsonists.

The reward of \$1,000 is being offered jointly through the Office of University Housing and the Residence

Hall Association.

Now that the students are aware of the problem, Zatechka said, they should work together to catch those responsible.

"I'm expecting staff, police and students working together can give us a little more than we have now," he said.

Zatechka said arson in residence halls is not a new phenomenon this year.

Two or three fires were started

earlier in the year, he said, and some of the fires have been bigger than others.

"We don't contrast between a small fire or a big fire," Zatechka said. "A fire is a fire is a fire."

Hall residents have not been in danger, he said.

Zatechka said that to his knowledge, no students have been injured in the fires.

See FIRE on 3

# Glasnost allows Soviet couple to explore UNL

By Shelly Biggs  
Staff Reporter

Two Soviet citizens demonstrated glasnost at work during a four-week visit to the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Vladimir Fridkin, a member of the Academy of Sciences in Moscow, and his wife, Nadejda Kisseleva, director of Moscow Radio, were in Lincoln observing programs relating to their fields of work, said Radha Balasubramanian, an assistant professor of Russian in the modern languages and literatures department.

During their stay, Kisseleva said, she exchanged tapes of her local Russian radio programs with the university's KRNU-FM 90.3. She said she wanted to make contacts with television and radio stations at U.S. universities to exchange information and ideas for the future.

Fridkin visited and lectured at the UNL physics department and exchanged scientific research with colleagues in his field of solid-state physics. He said he was eager to compare results of past experiments and to discuss the future of science with professors.

"There is a very high level of physics here. I was highly impressed with the Professor (Frank) Ullman's lab," Fridkin said.

The couple visited UNL at the invitation of Ullman, professor and associate chairman of electrical engineering and professor of physics and astronomy. Fridkin said he became acquainted with Ullman at an international conference in Moscow.

Fridkin is an author of many physics books, some of which, he said, will be published in the United States in December. His membership in the Academy of Sciences is noteworthy because no more than two people from each field are selected for the academy, Balasubrama-

nian said.

"It is a very high honor," she said.

Kisseleva was awarded the Honorary Actress of the Republic and is recognized as the creator of theater radio in Moscow.

While speaking to UNL Russian language classes, Kisseleva said, she answered questions about all aspects of Soviet life. The students were interested in the effect of glasnost and the differences in radio and television before and after perestroika, she said.

Kisseleva, who runs a variety of radio shows in Moscow, said radio has changed in the Soviet Union with the fall of socialism.

"There is so much freedom in broadcasting now, compared to before," Kisseleva said through an interpreter.

Before, she said, people were not allowed to call into the program to talk on the air. All the programs had to be pre-recorded, she said.

"Our chairman told us what we should and should not do on the air," Kisseleva said. "Now, we are encouraged to make up new programs, and try new things."

Fridkin said that before glasnost, Soviet citizens only heard negative things about the United States on television or through the newspaper. Now, he said, they hear much more positive things on a day-to-day basis than the United States hears about the Soviet Union.

The changes in the Soviet Union are good, Fridkin said, but there still are a lot of problems to face.

"There are now more choices and information provided to us, when in the past there wasn't, but there are also long lines for bread and goods," he said. Fridkin and Kisseleva

Fridkin and Kisseleva agreed that the new system is best for Soviet citizens. Before, Fridkin said, the Soviet citizens weren't free to do what they wanted to do, such as read other newspa-



Michelle Paulman/Daily Nebraskan

Soviet citizens Vladimir Fridkin and Nadejda Kisseleva visited UNL for four weeks and exchanged research and ideas for the future with students and professors.

pers or travel to other countries.

"We were not free politically or socially," he said. "People did not see socialism in reality."

The changes in the Soviet Union have given Fridkin and his wife a chance to travel and to participate in exchanges with colleagues from other countries.

During the visit, the couple had an opportunity to experience a Nebraska tradition. They enjoyed the enthusiasm at the Nebraska-Minnesota football game — something very differ-

ent from their country, Fridkin said.

"I could not figure out why one-half of the citizens of this town would all visit the football stadium at the same time," he said.

Fridkin said they also enjoyed a visit to the Lied Center for Performing Arts. In his town, he said, they do not have concert halls like the Lied Center.

The Soviet couple will visit Penn State, Princeton and Harvard during their stay. They will return to Moscow on Nov. 14.