

# RHA's landslide victories: Candidates ran unopposed

By Heather Heinisch  
Staff Reporter

“  
I'm excited and looking forward to a new year.”

Rush  
RHA president-elect

The Residence Hall Association's race had predictable results Thursday night as the three uncontested executive candidates enjoyed a sweeping victory.

Katherine Rush, a senior psychology major, was elected RHA president for the second year in a row with 400 votes.

Michael Lewis, a junior physics major, was elected vice president with 400 votes.

Kevin Keyes, a sophomore actuarial science major, was elected treasurer with 382 votes.

Belise Draper, a member of the RHA Electoral Commission, said voter turnout was about eight to 10 percent of the University of Nebraska residence halls' members.

The percentage of voters was generally higher than the past couple of years, Draper said.

James VandeVegt, newly elected treasurer for Harper-Schramm-Smith,

said the turnout was low because of voter apathy, and the number of uncontested races.

Rush, who was spending a quiet celebration doing homework in her room, said, "I'm excited and looking forward to a new year."

Her first goal, she said, was to start the new senate off on the right foot by getting the members settled in their new positions.

The two other newly elected officers were unavailable for comment.



Cultural diversity

Michelle Paulman/Daily Nebraskan

UNL Spanish professor Kay Nickel attaches a ribbon to an entry in the poster and name-tag competition of the Language Fair Thursday. The posters and name tags were displayed in the Nebraska Union. Students from about 60 high schools and junior high schools participated in the fair, according to Candy Bailey of the modern languages department. In addition to the poster and name tag contest, the students took part in music, drama and poetry-reading contests and language mini-lessons and demonstrations and watched foreign films.

# Officials target Spring Break drinking

## National project encourages smart Spring Break partying

By Trish Spencer  
Staff Reporter

Officials in two of the nation's leading Spring Break destinations are advocating partying this year — partying smart, that is.

Party Smart, a national alcohol-education project from the Beer Drinkers of America, has been adopted by Daytona Beach, Fla., and South Padre Island, Texas, to encourage responsible drinking among spring breakers.

"We want people to see the sunrise," said Sgt. Bill Tillard of the Daytona Beach Police Department.

Nancy Olenick, the national education director for Beer Drinkers of America, said Party Smart sponsors fun, outdoor, non-drinking activities for students.

One of these is a sand-sculpting contest in which students compete to win \$4,500 in cash and scholarships, Olenick said. This year, spring breakers in both hot spots will have the chance to participate in the event.

The contests will be judged by celebrities such as movie personality Clint Eastwood and National Football League quarterbacks Jim Kelly and Steve Beuerlein.

As part of the Party Smart pro-

gram, literature also will be distributed to restaurants, bars and hotels to encourage drinking in moderation, Olenick said.

In Daytona Beach, where the project was adopted last year, 66 percent of students surveyed said they saw Party Smart literature and 89 percent said they partied smart, according to Georgia Carter of the Daytona Chamber of Commerce.

Geri Wilson of the South Padre Island Chamber of Commerce said the island adopted the project this year because it considered spring breakers important revenue generators and wanted them to return.

Olenick said Party Smart was started four years ago in New Mexico by two men "interested in drinking beer and drinking it in moderation."

The program now is used by law enforcement officials and colleges in almost all 50 states, Olenick said. The program encourages designated drivers and adopting an alcohol-intake limit, she said.

Professional sports organizations such as the Dallas Cowboys and the Atlanta Braves also have used the Party Smart project to set up designated driver programs at their stadiums, Olenick said.

## Effects of beer sponsorship on underage drinking debated

By Angie Brunkow  
Staff Reporter

The U.S. surgeon general recently urged an end to Spring Break activities sponsored by beer companies, but law enforcement officials said even that wouldn't curb beach-going minors' habit of hitting the bottle.

Surgeon General Antonio Novello said beer companies should quit sponsoring activities for college students during Spring Break to help restrain underage drinking. Novello also related excessive drinking to the increase of sexually transmitted diseases among youth.

But some police officials in Daytona Beach, Fla., and South Padre Island, Texas, said beer company sponsorship is not the impetus to underage drinking.

"Where there is alcohol to be bought and consumed, it's going to be bought and consumed, regardless," said Capt. Tommy Atkinson of the South Padre Island Police Department.

Activities sponsored by beer companies, such as sporting events and concerts, are not necessarily linked to beer consumption, he said.

However, Atkinson said, beer

consumption is a common stigma that is attached to beer-sponsored activities, even though activities usually are not alcohol-related.

Sgt. Bill Tillard of the Daytona Beach Police Department agreed that less beer company sponsorship won't have an impact on the number of drinkers.

In past years, Miller Beer of Milwaukee has sponsored a welcome center in Daytona Beach. This year, Miller spokesman Dave Fogelson said the tent has been taken over by the city of Daytona Beach and Miller no longer will be affiliated with it.

But the switch was made because Daytona wanted to sponsor the city's official welcome center, not because of concerns over beer company involvement with Spring Break activities, he said.

In past years, the center was a large tented area on the beach where students could play video games or watch movie trailers, Fogelson said.

A section of the center was devoted to raise awareness for responsible drinking.

No alcohol consumption occurred within the tent and the center did not promote underage drinking, he said.

## Spring Break

Continued from Page 1  
under control.

The task force, which is made up of merchants, local government officials, hotel and motel managers and police officers, closes the bars one hour earlier during March, and requires different wristbands for minors and those over 21, Tillard said. Also, beach concerts are prohibited, he said.

Tillard said Daytona residents realize the Spring Break crowds bring revenue to the town, but the citizens insist that police control the partying.

South "Party" Island, as it used to be known, attracts more than 100,000 students in March, said Capt. Tommy Atkinson of the South Padre Island Police Department.

More than 80 percent of the arrests South Padre Island police make in March are alcohol-related, Atkinson said.

**You're never too old to quit blowing smoke.**

## Court

Continued from Page 1

The restraining order that Brinegar violated prohibited him from threatening, assaulting or harassing Kruse, entering premises occupied by Kruse, imposing any restraint upon her or attending UNL women's athletic practices or competitions.

Kruse contended that Brinegar sent her a poinsettia and a note asking her to enroll in a biology course with him and to travel to Norfolk with him.

The defendants also claimed that in February Brinegar tried to contact Kruse and Stephanie Thater, another member of the volleyball team, to discuss the case.

In Kruse's affidavit, she said Brinegar also had harassed her by proposing marriage to her after a September

volleyball game, during a University Judicial Board hearing in November and in a Nov. 12, 1990, letter used in his appeal to the University Appeals Board.

Brinegar had been placed on probation by the Judicial Board for allegedly harassing Kruse.

Defendants include Kruse, the NU Board of Regents, the Lincoln Police Department and 19 women who claimed they had received unsolicited contacts from Brinegar.

Brinegar's attorney Richard Goos, a Lincoln public defender, said Brinegar couldn't appeal the decision because it was a civil contempt suit.

Goos said he didn't know if Brinegar was going to comply with the court order.

"He was not prepared to change his position when we were in court today," he said.

## NEWS BRIEFS

### Speaker to address Persian Gulf war

Robert Oberst, associate professor of political science at Nebraska Wesleyan University, will address Wesleyan's University Forum today.

Oberst will present his lecture, "Conflict in the Gulf: The U.S. and the Arab World," at 10 a.m. in the McDonald Theatre in the Elder Memorial Speech and Theatre Center, 51st Street and Huntington Ave.

The lecture is free and open to the public.

### Student awarded for volunteerism

UNL graduate student Craig Strong was awarded a 1991 Gold Congressional Award for his achievements in voluntary public service, personal development, physical fitness and expeditions.

Members of Congress presented the award to Strong and 28 other 1991 recipients on Wednesday.

The award is one of the highest given by Congress and recognizes the voluntary community service and personal achievements of youths age 14-23.

## POLICE REPORT

Beginning midnight Wednesday, March 20

- 1:21 p.m. — Coat stolen, Neihardt Residence Hall, \$170.
- 1:31 p.m. — Bike stolen, Ferguson Hall, \$900.
- 1:47 p.m. — Woman choking, East Union, transported to Lin-

coln General Hospital, 2300 S. 16th St.

2:46 p.m. — Auto scratched, parking lot north of Harper-Schramm-Smith complex, \$45.

6:55 p.m. — Window broken, Activities Building, \$30.

11:20 p.m. — Harassing phone calls, Smith Residence Hall.

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