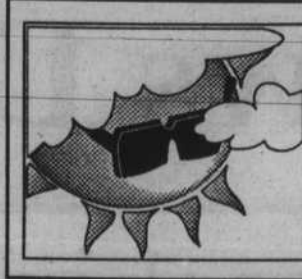


# Daily Nebraskan

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TODAY'S WEATHER

78/53

Today, partly sunny and balmy, south winds 10 to 20 mph. Tonight, partly cloudy with a 20 percent chance of thunderstorms. Wednesday, partly cloudy, high around 75.

## Spring football game funds to go to victim

### Simanek to receive scrimmage donations

By Chuck Green  
Senior Reporter  
and Taryn Gilster  
Staff Reporter

This year, for the first time, Nebraska's Athletic Department will not charge admission to the annual Red-White spring football game.

Instead, Coach Tom Osborne is asking fans to contribute what they normally would pay for scrimmage tickets — \$3 for adults and \$2 for children — to a fund for Gina Simanek, the victim of an alleged Jan. 18 assault by Nebraska football player Andrew Scott Baldwin.

The contributions will be accepted at entry gates to the game, which will be at 1 p.m. April 25 at Memorial Stadium.

Simanek received various injuries, including permanent brain damage, in the assault. Authorities said the attack was caused by atypical psychosis suffered by Baldwin, who was charged with first-degree assault.

Osborne said that because Nebraska law prohibited the university or the Athletic Department from making direct payments to Simanek or her family, the contribution was one way of helping.

"Nebraskans have always been supportive people, who have been willing to help people out who are having problems," he said. "I would hope people would want to contribute what they would normally pay to get into the game."

"And if they wanted to give larger amounts, we'd certainly be able to handle that, too."

He said the Simaneks were aware of the plan.

In past spring games, Osborne said, 15,000 to 30,000 fans have attended, "so you can multiply that and see what kind of fund-raising potential this could generate."

"We're hoping we're not embarrassed, we're hoping the amount is significant, and we're hoping that the Simaneks are pleased."

Osborne said he and Frank Solich, Nebraska's

running backs coach, had visited Simanek and her family "eight or nine or 10 times," and had promised several days after the assault to help out financially as much as possible.

He said no tax dollars, tuition percentages or student fees would be, or have been, used to pay for any aspect of the incident.

"It seems it's very difficult to get that point across," Osborne said. "The University of Nebraska Athletic Department is totally self-supporting. We have a totally separate budget from the university."

The Athletic Department already has taken steps to help Simanek and her family, Osborne said, by donating items for an auction in Wahoo to raise money. He said some members of the Athletic Department had made individual contributions.

Osborne said public opinion had no bearing on the Athletic Department's decision to use the spring game to raise funds for Simanek.

"We're doing this because we think it's the right thing to do, not because of public outcry during the last two months," he said. "We appreciate the (UNL) administration allowing us to do this."

"How much is raised will depend on how generous the public wants to be."

As well as the spring football game, funds for Simanek are being collected through private organizations and the Lincoln Foundation, Inc.

The Lincoln Foundation's rehabilitation fund is a single fund to assist both Simanek and Baldwin. The donor may designate one or both parties, and the money will be distributed based on the physical and psychological rehabilitation needs of both. The Lancaster County Chapter of the American Red Cross has managed and distributed the funds.

Jim Pratt, director of emergency services at the Lancaster County Red Cross, said the organization had not yet helped pay for Simanek's expenses.

Along with the Lincoln Foundation, Pratt said, two other private funds have been established to help with Simanek's medical expenses — one at the Union Bank and one in Simanek's hometown.



Erik Unger/DN

### Wishy washy

JoAnn Bell, 59, cleans windows Monday morning at the NBC Building, 13th and O streets. Bell, owner of Clearview Windows, has been cleaning windows for 28 years.

## Historical society offers job to Montana's state director

### Candidate to make decision by April 24

By Susie Arth  
Staff Reporter

The director of the Montana Historical Society was offered the job of director at the Nebraska State Historical Society Saturday.

Lawrence J. Sommer, 47, said he would make his decision whether to accept the position by April 24, when the Montana society board met.

Sommer, who has been the director of the Montana society since July 1989, said he was interested in the Nebraska job.

"It would be an opportunity for advancement in a larger corporation," he said.

According to The Omaha World-Herald, Sommer said he made about \$50,000 a year in Montana. The former director of the Nebraska State Historical Society, James Hanson, was making \$60,000 a year when he resigned in January.

But Sommer said he would discuss the offer with his family before making any decisions.

Sommer told The World-Herald he thought the societies in Nebraska and Montana had

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## Reports of arson surge

By Ronda Vlasin  
Staff Reporter

Five recent residence hall fires have been classified as arson, bringing the total of suspicious fires reported in the past week to 12, a UNL police official said.

Lt. Mylo Bushing of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Police Department said the first of the five additional fires was reported by Michael Meindl, Cather Residence Hall director.

Two trash cans in a restroom and a rolled-up

newspaper in Cather Residence Hall's stairwell were found burning Thursday shortly after 5 p.m., Bushing said.

The fires caused \$120 of damage, he said, to two restroom trash cans, a wet paint sign and a stairwell wall.

The second call reporting fires in the fifth- and seventh-floor restrooms of Harper Residence Hall was made Thursday at 8:16 p.m., Bushing said. After residents extinguished the fires, someone pulled the fire alarm, and the

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### TUESDAY

A nuclear activist attacks former President Ronald Reagan. Page 2.

Red alert! The stars of "Star Trek: The Next Generation" engage in a roundtable discussion on sex. Beam to Page 9.

Stephen King's new movie, "Sleepwalker," is not worth skipping a nap over. Page 10.

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## Spring fever sows seeds of apathy

By Rainbow Rowell  
Staff Reporter

"I just want to get the hell out. I don't care anymore."

The words of Jodi McGee, a freshman math major, are being heard often on the UNL campus lately as students become helpless victims of spring fever.

"It doesn't take an expert to see that people don't feel like going to class, studying, socializing or working when they've been here for eight months," said Vernon Williams, director of the Counseling Center at the

University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

"I don't want to do anything — no homework," said Chris Butt, a sophomore meteorology major.

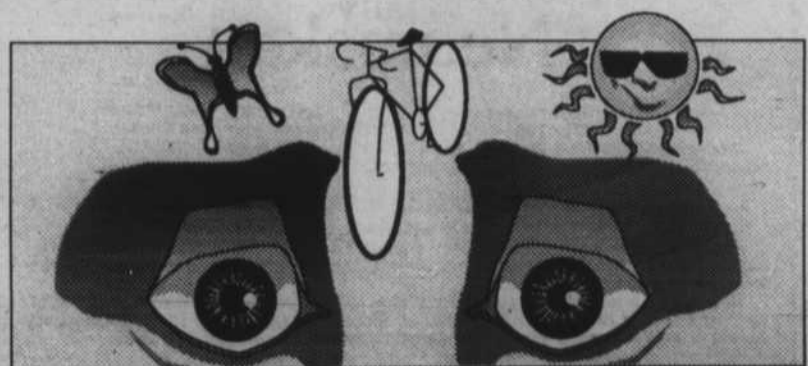
"I'm tired of school," Butt said. "I've been here for over six months. Meanwhile, my grades are slipping."

"It's Monday, and I'm already looking forward to the weekend," Butt said. "You can't do that."

"Basically, I'm just burned out."

And the weather isn't much of a remedy for spring fever, said Jennifer Blachford, a freshman biology major.

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Brian Shellito/DN