

# Daily Nebraskan

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**POLITICS**  
A wacky  
season



**THURSDAY**



## Senator calls for UNL official to resign

By **Chuck Green**  
Senior Reporter

Sen. Ernie Chambers of Omaha said a UNL official should resign because of his "insensitive" explanation of a police investigation that targeted African-American students.

Chambers said Tuesday that Lincoln and University of Nebraska-Lincoln police were questioning African-American males enrolled in the same anthropology class as UNL freshman Candice Harms, who has been missing since Sept. 22.

James Griesen, vice chancellor for student affairs at UNL, said the investigation was initiated when another student reported to investigators that Harms was seated by and talking to an African-American male the day of her disappearance.

Police then acquired the names of four or five African-American males enrolled in the class and contacted them, asking them for their social security numbers, previous addresses

and other information. Officers also photographed the students.

Griesen said Tuesday that he thought the action was appropriate.

"The fact that the student was African American was only one part of the description," Griesen said. "If the description would have been for a 6-foot-6 blond guy, police would be looking for him."

Chambers said Griesen's statement was ridiculous and that he should resign.

"As vice chancellor, Griesen is supposed to be sensitive and supportive of the students," he said. "I'm more upset with his response than I am with the initial incident."

On Monday, Chambers wrote a letter to UNL Chancellor Graham Spanier, asking for a meeting between Chambers, Spanier and other university officials to discuss the investigation and its racial implications.

Chambers said he now wanted to meet with Spanier to discuss Griesen's explanation, which he said suggested that questioning students based on race was acceptable at UNL.

"I want to see if Spanier and (NU President Martin) Massengale agree with what Griesen said," Chambers said. "I think Griesen is a water carrier and a messenger boy, but he may have been giving his personal reaction to the incident rather than the university's."

Griesen said he was concerned that Chambers thought his explanation of the investigation was inadequate, but "I still believe it was a legitimate attempt by the police to talk to anybody they could" in connection with the Harms case.

"I don't want our African-American students feeling like their presence here puts them at risk," Griesen said.

Chambers said he questioned why police would need photographs of the African-American males enrolled in the class.

"It sounds to me like they're suspects," he said. "But if they are suspects, they've been cast in that role only because they're black."

"There were no pictures taken of white students in the class, and I'm sure Harms talked to some of them, too."

UNL Police Chief Ken Cauble said the photographs were intended for "future information-gathering purposes, not to identify anyone who was a potential suspect."

He said Bates was the only African-American student police contacted who would not allow his photo to be taken.

"But if he doesn't want his picture taken, that's fine," Cauble said. "That's certainly his right, and we'll respect that."

Cauble said UNL police had talked to more than 150 people in connection with the Harms investigation, and would continue to "reach for any information that might narrow the investigation."

Chambers said he would wait for Spanier to respond to his letter, but that the wait would "not be forever." He said that if no response came, his dismay would be reflected on the floor of the Legislature, possibly in the form of opposition to UNL budget requests.

"I want some answers," he said. "This is really more than I can tolerate."



**Ouch!**

Christie Craighead, a freshman from Hillsboro, N.H., winces while giving blood Wednesday at the Nebraska Union.

## Candidates mull over U.S. debt

By **Corey Russman**  
Staff Reporter

Although both candidates for Nebraska's 3rd District representative agree that the national deficit is the major problem facing the country, they disagree on how the problem should be solved.

Republican incumbent Bill Barrett said one way to curb the deficit would be to quit spending \$2.57 for every \$1 the United States takes in.

Barrett said he supported a balanced-budget amendment and the line-item veto.

Barrett's challenger, Democrat Lowell Fisher, said the United States should attack the deficit annually. That way, he said, the government would benefit from learning what worked and what didn't.

Fisher predicted that the deficit would hinder the economy for the next 20 years. Budget problems will harm education and health care and delay highway improvements, he said.

He said the budget deficit was the issue that affected college students the most. The government is spending money that belongs to their and future generations, he said.

See **RACE** on 3

## Holiday weekend triple-dares students, police

CU, Homecoming, Halloween add up to police overtime

By **Susie Arth**  
Senior Reporter

A triple threat awaits university police Saturday — Halloween, Homecoming and Colorado.

Chief Ken Cauble of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Police Department said he expected the weekend to be wild for students and "extremely busy" for police.

"I could have planned it better if I had my way," he said.

Cauble said he was aware of at least six Halloween dances or parties on campus Friday or Saturday night.

Although Halloween is not tradi-

tionally a time for a lot of drinking and driving, Cauble said, police still will be prepared for the possibility.

In addition, Homecoming parties, which usually do not create much of a problem, could add to the strain.

"Parties of any kind increase the likelihood of drinking and driving," he said.

Cauble said he also suspected many bars would be having special Halloween deals, but he hoped students planned to walk to the bars instead of drive.

Sgt. Ann Heermann of the Lincoln Police Department said Lincoln police had received a federal grant to bring in additional help Saturday night.

But, she said, the department does not anticipate any particular problems during the weekend.

Cauble said the main concern during Homecoming was keeping an eye

on the displays.

Officers will patrol the entire campus on Homecoming night, he said, but they will concentrate mainly on the areas with displays to make sure they do not get torn down.

Another concern facing police is the later kickoff time for Saturday's game, Cauble said.

The 3 p.m. kickoff time gives students an extra two hours to drink alcoholic beverages before going to the game, he said.

"The bigger the rivalry between the two teams, the more preparation (students put) into the game," he said.

Cauble said he also was concerned about the behavior of the Cornhusker fans because he had been told that Buffalo fans did not treat Nebraska fans with respect when they traveled to Colorado for the game last year.

See **HOMECOMING** on 3

**A triple dose of madness**

Lincoln police received a federal grant to bring in additional help this weekend, and UNL police are sending officers to as many university events as possible.



Brian Shellito/DN