

# ASUN to debate revival of prayer at graduation

By Angie Brunkow  
Staff Reporter

ASUN senators will debate tonight whether to support a recent decision made by the UNL Commencement Committee to eliminate the invocation and benediction from commencement ceremonies. Andrew Loudon, speaker of the senate, said the prayers were an important tradition in graduation and the ban was not supported by the two Association of Students of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln members of the committee.

Loudon said he planned to bring up a bill on emergency status asking the committee to reconsider its decision.

Herb Howe, associate to the chancellor and a member of the committee, said he raised the issue because of the wide diversity represented among graduating seniors.

Graduates, Howe said, have a wide range of beliefs and non-beliefs.

Howe said the committee also considered a recent Supreme Court decision banning prayers in graduation ceremonies in schools-grades kinder-

garten through 12-when it made the decision.

But Loudon said the Supreme Court decision did not deal with post-secondary school institutions and should not be considered for the university ceremony.

"It's not against the law," he said. Howe said the committee realized the Supreme Court decision did not apply to UNL, but it did raise the question of what role prayer played in the ceremony.

"This is an academic exercise," he said. "Let's keep it academic."

But Loudon said the invocation and benediction would expand cultural diversity by letting those attending the ceremony learn about different cultures and religions.

In other business, ASUN will decide how many senators need to be represented on the Five-Year Projection Committee.

The committee, which makes recommendations to ASUN about needed campus improvements, currently has six senate members represented. The proposal would reduce that number to two.

Also, ASUN will consider appropriating \$500 to support Rape Education Week.

## Senate

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interviewed and photographed by UNL police in connection with the case, but not as suspects, they were told.

Chambers has since demanded an apology from university officials for the investigation.

Jolly said his office should have been directly involved in the controversy, but Chambers didn't contact him.

"My office wasn't as highly involved as I wish it would have been," he said. "That won't happen again."

Jolly told the senate that UNL Police Chief Ken Cauble sent a letter to the students apologizing for the department's actions in the case. The students' photographs also were returned.

"It's an accurate and real apology," Jolly said, "one they deserved."

Improving accessibility for people

with disabilities is another project Jolly told faculty members he was working on.

Jolly said he had made a list of buildings that needed renovation. However, only \$400,000 is now available for construction, Jolly said.

"Do we have enough money?" he said. "No, but we're getting there. I'll be begging for money; you'll hear it loudly."

In other business, Mary Beck, chairwoman of the Chancellor's Commission on the Status of Women, proposed that the senate begin overseeing campus safety inspections.

The inspections include a campus walk by university officials after dark once a semester. The walks haven't been sponsored by a specific organization since the campus safety committee was dissolved in the early 1980s, she said.

The senate unanimously passed this proposal.

## Veterans

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Korean War had been forgotten," he said. "I felt an urge to do something to call attention to it."

Closer to home, Greene has been active in fund-raisers to bring World War II, Korean, Desert Storm and K-9 Memorials to Antelope Park and added to the Vietnam Memorial.

Greene, a professor of education at UNL, said the K-9 Memorial was one that he felt especially close to because his dog was killed in World War II. But the memorial, he said, would be dedicated to all dogs in all armies.

The idea of Veterans Day began on Nov. 11, 1919, exactly one year after

the conclusion of World War I.

President Woodrow Wilson set aside the day for Americans to remember those who had fought and died the "war to end all wars." The day was called Armistice Day until 1954, when it was changed to Veterans Day to honor veterans of all wars and those who serve in times of peace.

Today's holiday will allow both men to spend time remembering.

Green said he especially would remember his friends who fought in the Korean War and their families today.

"I think about the people I knew and what they're doing, and I particularly think about the people who lost family members in the war," he said.

Greene said he believed it was important to communicate the memories of the wars to future generations

## Crime

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Lundy said a car was set on fire Oct. 21 in the unpaved parking lot east of Pound Hall. Officers believe the arson may be tied to the death of Dung Van Nguyen, 24, of 220 N. 21st St.

Nguyen was found dead Oct. 21 from a knife wound to the chest in a recreation area north of Crete. University and Lincoln officers are also working together in that investigation.

"There's an awful lot going on in Lincoln," Lundy said. "We're tied up."

The department has had to spread its officers thin to work on the cases, Lundy said, making it difficult for officers to focus on individual inves-

tigations.

The UNL Police Department has 27 commissioned officers who are working on all the cases. Lundy said the department had even called in off-duty officers to help with searches.

"That's what they get paid for," he said. "That's what they're here for."

UNL officers have spent time conducting interviews, searches and making phone calls for each of the cases, Lundy said.

In the Harms case, for example, Lundy said officers had contacted people who have had any involvement with Harms during the past few months.

Officers constantly check with other police bureaus across the nation to see if cases elsewhere could tie into local investigations.

"All the investigators of all the

# Physicist says planet plagued

By Corey Russman  
Staff Reporter

The world needs to make a fresh start on the path to achieving a more sustainable world, a Nobel laureate said Tuesday.

Murray Gell-Mann, a theoretical physicist, spoke at the Lied Center for the E.N. Thompson Forum on World Issues, telling more than 1,000 listeners that in this age of growing environmental problems, the inhabitants of the world must take the initiative to stop stagnation and extreme growth.

"Time is special," Gell-Mann said. "The 20th century is the crossroads for humans and the world."

The human race has the technical capability of altering the biosphere through chemical and nuclear warfare. Humans also are capable of destroying the many species with whom humans share the world, he said.

In order to achieve a sustainable world, Gell-Mann said, people must use their minds to balance competition and manage differences.

One means of doing this, Gell-Mann said, is to curb the current rate of growth of the world population. A hyperbolic population curve drawn years ago, he said, showed that if the population continued to grow at present rates, the world population could reach infinity by 2025.

"Population growth encourages environmental degradation," he said.

The biosphere and the environment belong to everyone, he said. The oceans, space and Antarctica do not belong to just one person.

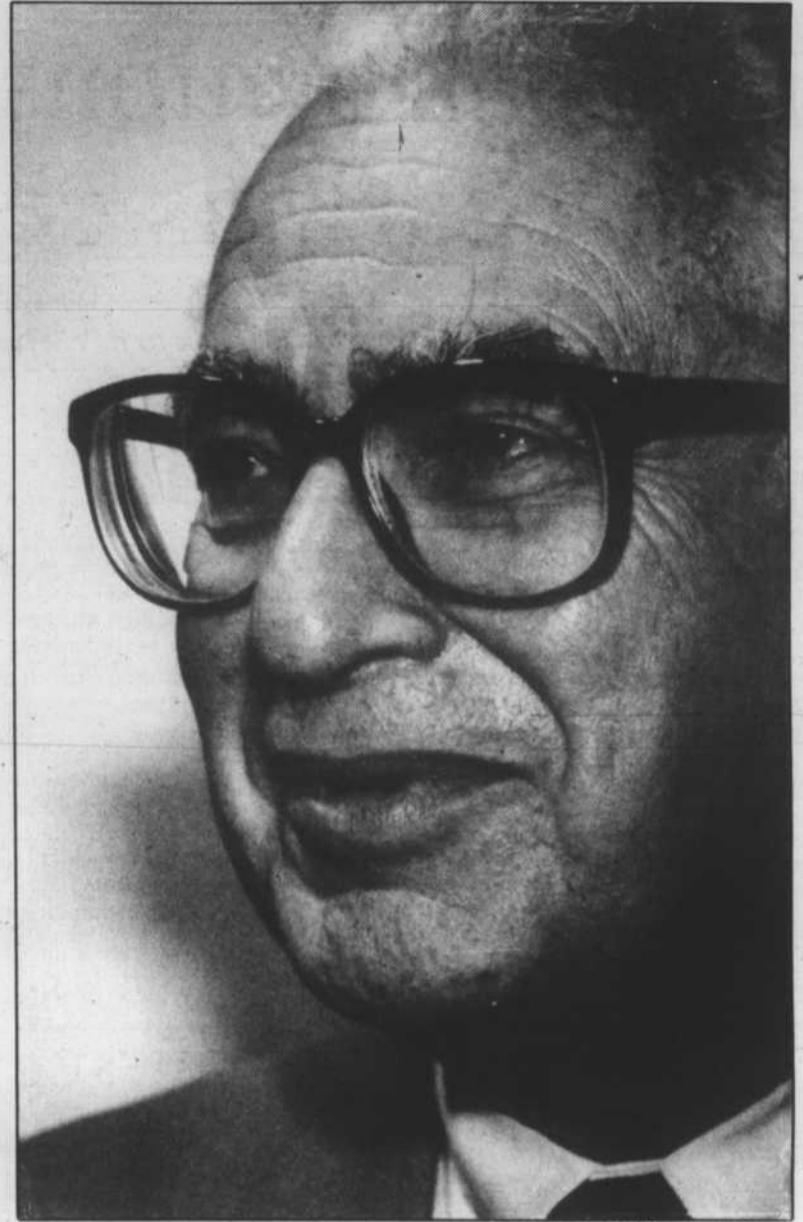
Polluting the environment costs the present generation nothing, Gell-Mann said. However, he said, polluters are stealing from future generations.

There needs to be a concern for the future, as well as the present, Gell-Mann said.

In order for humans to achieve a sustainable world, transitions must be made, he said.

The world needs to see an elimination of mega-city problems like pollution and population overgrowth. It is essential for all countries to cooperate and work together, he said.

The world also needs "bottom-up initiatives," Gell-Mann said. There must be a large number of small, family efforts to save the environment!



Robin Trimarchi/DN  
Murray Gell-Mann, a Nobel laureate in physics, answers questions following his lecture at the Lied Center for Performing Arts on Tuesday.

Gell-Mann said he thought there should be a planetary bargain in which wealthier countries helped poorer countries monetarily. In return, he said, the poorer countries should be required to take measures to ensure their own maintenance.

Governments also need to work toward transnational cooperation, Gell-Mann said. Groups from around the world must connect and join together.

As of now, "no problem is too small to divide the world into antagonistic groups," he said. The world is filled with fragmentation,

he said. The concept of "us" has grown, he said, but it will eventually need to encompass the whole universe — men, women and animals.

The world also needs to see an ideological transition in which present thinking is transformed to overcome devastating tendencies such as war and environmental degradation, Gell-Mann said.

Gell-Mann compared the world's environmental problems to driving down an unlit road at night.

"Even a little light from a flickering headlight would be beneficial."

## POLICE REPORT

- Beginning midnight Monday 12:53 p.m. — Wallet stolen, Love Library, \$12.
- 10:09 a.m. — Meter stolen, parking lot at Abel-Sandoz complex, \$650.
- 1:05 p.m. — Vandalism to trees, Abel-Sandoz complex, \$600.

The Royal Grove Presents a 'Live' Musical Tribute To

**LED ZEPPELIN**

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\$5 Cover + 1 Drink Minimum  
18 + Older Admitted With I.D. (after 8:30)