

DIVERSIONS

Secret lives

THURSDAY

47/22

Partly sunny with a brisk wind today. Tomorrow, mostly sunny but cold.



Soulful solo

A man plays a violin tribute to a deceased veteran in the Soldiers Circle at Wyuka Cemetery Wednesday.

Erik Unger/DN

Professors dispute plan for addition of minuses

By Shelley Biggs
Senior Reporter

Professors debated on Wednesday the pluses and minuses of a proposal to add minuses to the grading system at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

James Ford, an associate professor of English, and Herman Knoche, a professor of biochemistry, agreed that the plus system should be removed, but they disagreed on adding minuses to the present plus system of grading.

The professors debated the proposed grading policy changes during an open forum in the Nebraska Union, sponsored by the College of Arts and Sciences Student Advisory Board.

Ford said he thought having only pluses inflated grades on report cards.

He said he became concerned about the present plus system after he had a difficult time trying to convert minus grades into the plus system. Because there is no minus system at UNL, Ford said, he often has to "bump up" grades of students who may not have deserved

See GRADES on 3

Ban on prayer at graduation to be reviewed

By Angie Brunkow
Staff Reporter

The UNL Commencement Committee will reconsider its decision to strike prayers from the commencement ceremony, an ASUN official said Wednesday.

Andrew Loudon, speaker of the senate for the Association of Students of the University of Nebraska, said that student mobilization led Herb Howe, associate to the chancellor and member of the Commencement Committee, to call a meeting to reconsider the decision.

Howe first raised questions about the graduation invocation and benediction at the committee's meeting last week. He said the committee decided to ban the prayers because of graduates' diverse backgrounds.

Chancellor Graham Spanier said the issue came up because of a Supreme Court decision to ban prayer in graduation ceremonies in kindergarten through 12th grade.

The committee wanted to look at how the case relates to UNL, he said.

See ASUN on 3

Spanier proposes corporation

Chancellor says aim is to help Nebraska compete worldwide

By Susie Arth
Senior Reporter

UNL Chancellor Graham Spanier has formed a committee that will study the feasibility of a new corporation that would help Nebraska's businesses in international markets.

Spanier said he believed the corporation, which would be operated by the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, could help businesses in the state compete in the global economy.

"There is a growing number of businesses that have the ability to compete in the international marketplace," he said. "(UNL) can help

these businesses do this by marshaling the university's vast expertise."

Spanier said local businesses would receive the most benefits if the corporation proved to be workable, but the university would benefit as well by improving its bond with the business sector.

"It's not really designed to help the university as much as it is to help the rest of the state," he said. "I see it as a part of the public service mission of the university."

"Ultimately we see it as an opportunity to form tighter ties between the university and the rest of the state."

But the corporation could benefit UNL by opening additional doors for faculty and students in the field of international business, Spanier said.

Spanier said he believed UNL's resources in modern languages, international affairs, agriculture, trade, cultural exchanges and study-abroad opportunities would be especially instrumental in the corporation's operation.

Spanier said he expected the committee to

report its findings back to him in about six months.

The committee, which already is preparing for its first meeting, is comprised of representatives from the university and business sector.

The committee will explore the resources at UNL that could be pulled together to help businesses, Spanier said.

In addition, Spanier said he hoped the committee would determine if the corporation could be self-supporting.

Spanier said he was uncertain when the corporation would form, but he hoped it would be within one year.

The idea for the corporation, he said, came about when he repeatedly heard local business executives express a desire for international markets.

And Spanier said he believed UNL's resources could fulfill their desire and provide benefits for all sectors.

"We want to launch this initiative to better the university, the government and the state," he said.

Awareness week to educate students about sex crimes

By Kristine Long
Staff Reporter

Rape, sexual assault and sexual harassment are not crimes that victims feel comfortable reporting, but they must be reported if they are to be prevented, a UNL police officer said.

Officer Lisa Yardley said she hoped Rape/Sexual Assault Awareness Week, which begins today, would educate students about these crimes and make it easier for victims to report them.

ASUN Sen. Leslie Strong and President Andrew Sigerson, along with 14 members of the Rape Awareness Committee, have orga-

nized the week's events, which will end Nov. 19 with a nationally known speaker.

Rape survivor Nancy Ziegenmeyer, one of the nation's leading rape-prevention advocates, will be the highlight and finale of Rape/Sexual Assault Awareness Week, Strong said.

Ziegenmeyer, from Grinnell, Iowa, shared her story with the Des Moines Register in February 1990 with the hope of helping other rape survivors. The Register won a Pulitzer Prize in 1991 for coverage of her story.

Ziegenmeyer will speak Nov. 19 at 7 p.m. at the Lied Center for Performing Arts.

The theme of Rape/Sexual Assault Week is

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Rape/Sexual Assault Awareness Week

TODAY: —Teleconference, "Confronting Sexual Harassment on Campus," 12:30 to 2:30 p.m., Nebraska Union; Panel 2:30 to 3 p.m.

MONDAY: —REACT: Rape Education and Campus Training, 7:30 p.m., Nebraska Union Ballroom

TUESDAY: —"He said...She said," panel and video on acquaintance rape, 11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m., Nebraska Union

—Self-defense training, Campus Recreation Center, Martial Arts Room, 3 to 5 p.m.

—Comedian T. Marni Vos, 8 p.m., Nebraska Union Ballroom

WEDNESDAY: —"Playing the Game," presentation, 6:30 p.m., Nebraska Union Regency Suite

THURSDAY: —Nancy Ziegenmeyer will speak at 7 p.m. at the Lied Center



Scott Maurer/DN