

Stalking

Continued from Page 1

Lancaster County attorney Gary Lacey called the bill that was passed last year "inadequate."

"The victim was only covered by law if they were stalked by a person who threatened to kill or do serious bodily injury," Lacey said.

"The bill now covers activities (committed by stalkers) that are so subtle in nature," Lacey said. These activities include following or stalking a person or telephoning the

“*I have had my life threatened, and my parent's lives have been threatened, as well as those of my friends. I'm tired of it, I just want to live. I want to be free.*”

— Hennecke stalking victim

person.
Lori Hennecke of Lincoln, who said she had been stalked for the past two years, testified in favor of the bill.

She told the committee of the terror that surrounded herself and those around her.

"I have had my life threatened, and my parent's lives have been threatened, as well as those of my friends," Hennecke said.

"I'm tired of it, I just want to live," she said. "I want to be free."

Program to help disabled find jobs

By Sarah Scalet
Staff Reporter

Disabled students at UNL and UNO are being asked what they think about campus services for the disabled as part of a new program to help students with disabilities in the job market, an official said.

Dr. Mary Friche, co-director of Postsecondary RESUME, said a survey being sent out would determine how often students use services for the disabled and how helpful those services are. RESUME stands for Relevant Employment for Students in University Mediated Experiences.

The survey, due Feb. 15, also will determine any additional needs of disabled students and how those needs can be met, Friche said.

Once the survey results are known, Postsecondary RESUME co-directors Friche, of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, and Jan Leuenberger, of the University of Nebraska at Omaha, will determine what steps should be taken to ease the transition of disabled students from college to the work force, Friche said.

The project's advisory committee, which will meet Wednesday, will draw together grant personnel, students with disabilities and business and university representatives, Friche said.

Friche said she thought students with disabilities might need help preparing for the work world, both in finding and keeping jobs at their skill levels.

"National surveys suggest that students with disabilities may have difficulty finding employment," she said. "When they do get employment, they sometimes have difficulties

keeping a job, or sometimes are unable to get a job at a level that is equal to their level of training."

Exactly why this occurs is one thing the project aims to find out, Friche said. Possible reasons include employers' attitudes, work accommodations and expectations of graduates.

Postsecondary RESUME will help students

vices, Friche said.

The one-year grant, which was awarded to Friche and Leuenberger last October, can be renewed for a total of three years, she said. By the end of those three years the service should be in place.

People working under the grant include a full-time project coordinator, a part-time ca-

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—Friche, co-director of Postsecondary RESUME

with disabilities plan for careers and obtain appropriate work experience and internships before they graduate, she said.

The project will coordinate programs already in place at UNL and UNO, she said, including Career Planning and Placement, the Office for Students with Disabilities and Vocational Rehabilitational Services.

In addition to preparing students for the work place, the program also will prepare the work place for the students, Friche said.

Project members will work with businesses to help employers understand the capabilities of disabled students and graduates, she said.

The program is funded by a \$135,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Education Office of Special Education and Rehabilitation Ser-

vice planning and placement counselor, a part-time rehabilitation counselor, and graduate assistants at both UNL and UNO, Friche said.

Postsecondary RESUME is part of a nationwide trend to help citizens with disabilities, Friche said.

Although Postsecondary RESUME is the first program of its kind in Nebraska, similar programs exist in other states, Friche said.

The Americans with Disabilities Act, passed in 1990, aims to eliminate discrimination against people with disabilities and assist them in the work place, she said.

However, the ADA targets disabled citizens in general, while Postsecondary RESUME targets those who are college graduates, Friche said.

China

Continued from Page 1

Chai said the United States could speed up the insertion of democracy by putting pressure on the Chinese government. She said she was optimistic that President Clinton would do just that.

"We need to attach conditions to China's most-favored-nation trade status with the United States," Chai said.

Chai, who became the international spokeswoman for the Chinese Democracy Movement in 1990, is now a graduate student at Princeton. She was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize in 1990 and 1991.

In her time at Princeton, Chai said she had noticed a huge political and cultural gap between the United States and China.

"You have just elected a new president, and everything is so peaceful," she said. "Everything is so smooth and happy and enjoyable."

"What we wanted three and a half years ago was the same thing — we only wanted equal dialogue with our government officials. Instead of sitting down and listening to our voice, they sent tanks and troops," she said. "That is the difference between communism and democracy."

Chai gave a firsthand account of the incident at Tiananmen Square and her flight from China, from the muzzle flashes of the tank guns to the 10-month exile she endured to escape

from her country.

She said friends, military officers, civilians and total strangers helped her and other student leaders marked for execution flee China.

"They gave me my freedom, that is true," Chai said. "But there was really nothing left for me."

“*There's a very strong tendency toward democratization almost everywhere (in the world). I don't think China should be too far behind.*”

—Chai Chinese student leader

Sometimes she said she asks herself what it would be like if the movement and the Tiananmen Square incident had never happened.

"I think of how nice it would be if my friends were still alive, if my family would not have been taken away from me, and if China was still my home country," she said. "But facts tell me, 'No, the massacre did happen.'"

Chai said that it was only a matter of time until the Chinese accept democracy.

"There's a very strong tendency toward democratization almost everywhere (in the world)," she said. "I don't think China should be too far behind."

Death

Continued from Page 1

was murdered by Charles Palmer in 1979, said "There's just no way they can guarantee with this bill that a person will serve a life sentence."

Amicus Nebraska founder William Beatty Brown of Omaha said LB651 was a "shell game" that promised life in prison but could not deliver. Amicus Nebraska is a group that supports capital punishment.

Donald McCall, vice chairman of the State Board of Parole, testified in favor of repealing the death penalty.

McCall said a murderer sentenced to life without parole had no chance to be pardoned unless the State Board of Pardons commuted that sentence, which is highly unlikely.

"Commutation is a long, arduous and even litigious process which often lasts longer than the offender's life span," McCall said.

Only three senators — two fewer than needed — voted for the advancement of the bill: Sens. Chambers, Tim Hall and John Lindsay, all of Omaha.

Voting against advancement were Sen. Carol Hudkins of Malcolm, Chris Abboud of Ralston, Dwite Pedersen of Elkhorn and Jennie Robak of Columbus.

Sen. Dan Fisher of Grand Island was absent.

The committee advanced another death penalty bill, LB600, by a 6-1 vote.

That bill would allow condemned inmates to choose lethal injection, rather than electrocution, as the method of execution.

Harold Clarke, director of the Nebraska Department of Corrections, said lethal injection is used by 22 of the 38 states that have the death penalty.

He said lethal injection would be a painless and more humane way to die. It also would be easier on the executioner and others who must witness the carrying out of the death sentence, he said.

Brown of Amicus Nebraska said he opposed LB600.

"It could open up another 10 years of appeals for those already condemned to die," Brown said.

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