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# INNOCENT BYSTANDER.



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# Professor backs proposal

By Paula Lavigne  
Staff Reporter

At least one university professor thinks a proposed congressional amendment to protect plant variety researchers is a good idea.

Dr. Stephen Baenziger, agronomy department head, said Sen. Bob Kerrey's proposed Plant Variety Protection Act Amendment of 1993 would provide additional protection for original seed breeders and remove farmer exemptions from protected variety breeding restrictions.

The amendment, which amends the Plant Variety Protection Act of 1970, was proposed to protect the rights of original breeders and would bring the United States into agreement with current international policies.

"The bill greatly reduces farmer

exemptions and allows for a person with a pure line to protect the sale of it," Baenziger said. "It will lessen unauthorized sale of varieties and will stop unethical use."

The exemptions often led to unethical marketing of protected varieties with original breeders not being reimbursed for new developments.

If Kerrey's proposal passes, original developers will receive credit for new strains.

But Baenziger said the proposed amendment would leave UNL largely unaffected. University researchers release new varieties to reliable producers, he said.

"We have no problem meeting the new laws," he said.

Baenziger said the proposed law would allow the university to provide more varieties to its producers because researchers would have the security of the law's protection.

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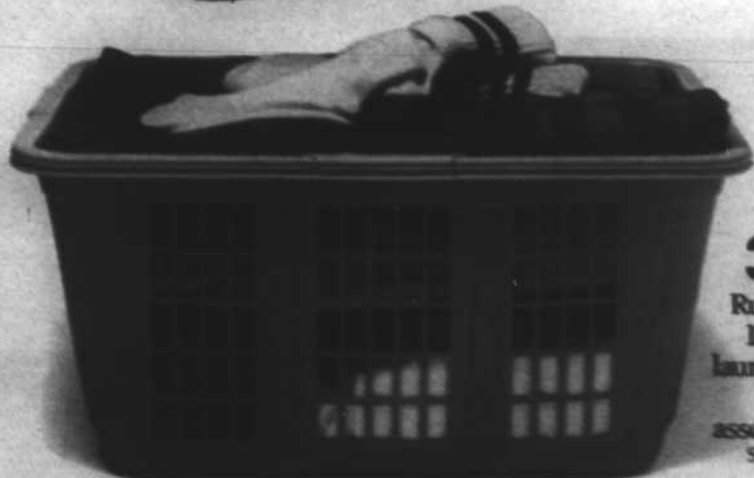
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# Bjorklund

Continued from Page 1

lowing the arrest.

Sorensen, who advised Bjorklund of his rights after his arrest, said he believed Bjorklund wanted to talk to him.

In afternoon proceedings, the defense lawyers finished cross-examining Sorensen. They then questioned Lincoln police officers involved in the monitoring of the wiretap and Bjorklund's arrest.

Officers who monitored the wiretap were asked about their under-

standing of the case and the language used in the instructions they were given by officials from the county attorney's office.

Helvie objected to the phone-tap logs on the grounds that they violated Bjorklund's constitutional rights and that they were not obtained according to the state constitution. But the motion was overruled by District Judge Donald Endacott, and the exhibits were allowed.

The hearing will continue at 9 a.m. today.

Staff Reporter Mike Lewis and Senior Editor Wendy Mott contributed to this story.

# Drop

Continued from Page 1

forms. Ninety-seven forms are scanned each minute between two beams of ultraviolet light. The beams stop when they hit marks from No. 2 pencil lead. The marks are changed into electronic codes.

The codes are routed via telephone line to Nebraska Hall, UNL's mainframe computer and eventually returning to the union. There it is transformed into type and printed on new forms — red ones if the changes were accepted, blue ones if rejected.

From the time a student hands the form to a worker, the process takes about 10 minutes, depending on the number of changes requested. To most students, that might seem like a short time compared to the hours they've put into making schedule changes. Drop/add was an all-day event for Amy Hurd, a junior biology major, who awaited the outcome of her schedule requests.

"I got up at 6 o'clock (a.m.), got down here at 6:45, and I was right by Burnett in line," she said. Hurd is looking forward to the new touch-tone registration system.

"Anything would be better than this," she said. "It's a mess."

But Schkade said the system used

now provided the best person-to-person contact possible.

"This system we're working on is still the cutting edge of technology when you have live bodies," he said.

Students will miss the personal attention of the system, Schkade said, when touch-tone drop/add is installed.

"It's you, a phone and a machine," he said. "With this system, you can ask questions."

Personal attention is provided by five full-time staff members who answer questions. Employees from several colleges sit at booths during the day to help students.

Twenty-eight part-time workers — many of them senior citizens — are hired just to help with registration and drop/add sessions.

After the final drop/add session in January, workers such as Joy Boster will no longer guard the entrance to the Union Ballroom to check time cards. Kay Gilbertson won't help hand out the 1,440 pencils provided by the University Bookstore.

Technology will eliminate their long-time jobs.

For Cushing and the friends she's made through the years at drop/add sessions, the change may seem overwhelming.

"Old women do not fade away," she said. "They just work registration."

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