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Correction

An article in Tuesday's Daily Nebraskan stated that Smashing Pumpkin tickets are \$12.50. The actual price is \$13.50 plus a \$2.25 service fee. The Daily Nebraskan regrets the error.



A&E

Like water for chocolate

Lumi Cavazos and Marco Loenardi film at the Riepma Ross. Page 6

Wednesday
85/60
Partly sunny and warm today. Partly to mostly cloudy Thursday with scattered thunderstorms.

Ex-professor acquitted of sexual assault

Case was 'mistake,' former coach says

By Jeff Zeleny
Senior Editor
and Dionne Searcey
Senior Reporter

Former UNL professor Clifford Walton was found innocent of third-degree sexual assault Tuesday by Lancaster County Judge Jack Lindner.

Walton was accused of sexually assaulting University of Nebraska-Lincoln student Josh Werger in September 1992. Walton later resigned from his position as an associate professor of chemical engineering and adviser of the UNL boxing club.

In the ruling, the judge said the prosecution

did not prove beyond a reasonable doubt Walton had committed the crime.

"It is for certain that circumstances under which this incident occurred give rise to strong suspicion," Lindner wrote. "But I can not say beyond a reasonable doubt that the physical contact which occurred between the two rises to the level as set forth in the statutes."

Werger, a former member of the UNL boxing club, alleged he was sexually assaulted by Walton during private boxing lessons at Walton's house last year.

The case was brought to trial in Lancaster County Court in April and continued in July. The judge held the case under advisement until Tuesday.

Walton told the Daily Nebraskan on Tuesday he was pleased with the decision.

"I was declared not guilty," he said. "My

Charges won't hurt future, officials say

By Dionne Searcey
Senior Reporter

Clifford Walton, who was acquitted Tuesday of sexual assault charges, said his future was undecided.

Walton said he would not seek his former job with the university.

"Not at the University of Nebraska," he said. "I don't know what I'll do yet."

Walton will consider seeking another job in a chemical engineering department away from the university, he said.

Ronald Ross, UNL associate director of affirmative action and diversity, said he did not know how other universities would react to

hiring a person acquitted of sexual assault charges.

Ross said UNL would not mark for life an employee or refuse to hire a person who has been accused of sexual assault.

"The person is not tainted by the accusation," he said.

"If you're ever accused, the mere accusation is not going to hold you back from employment."

Whether UNL officials would hire applicants accused of sexual assault would depend on all circumstances involved, Ross said. Such decisions are made on a case-by-case basis, he said.

"There is no standard way to handle those types of cases you have when someone resigns under those conditions," he said.

The safety of students would be a primary consideration, Ross said, as would the rights of

See REACTION on 3

See WALTON on 3



Look Ma, no legs

Richard Dahl from the Nebraska School for the Deaf watches as Kara Guenther, an art education graduate student, takes a legless lizard from his cage. Guenther works at Morrill Hall's Encounter Center, where visitors can touch the animals.

Sandy Summers/DN

Violence hits home, shocks Russian student

By Alan Phelps
Senior Reporter

A Russian student studying at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln said he was shocked by the violence in Moscow, but he hoped real reforms would follow.

Gleb Evfarestov, a sophomore marketing major from Moscow, said his mouth dropped open as he watched television reports of President Boris Yeltsin's troops storming rebels holed up in the Russian White House.

"It was a shock for me," he said. "When I saw these four tanks in a row sitting on a bridge and shooting at the building, I just opened my mouth."

Russian troops loyal to President Boris Yeltsin stormed the Parliament building Monday after hard-liners attempted to take over several government buildings Sunday.

Evfarestov, 20, said reports of the fighting moved him to call his mother Sunday night. She lives near a Moscow television station, which hard-liners tried to overrun.

"She said there were crowds of people moving just under our windows," he said. "She was hoping they wouldn't enter the buildings of apartments."

Evfarestov said his mother stayed in her apartment during the fighting, afraid to travel to her job. As calm was restored in Moscow on Tuesday, Evfarestov said she finally ventured outside.

Evfarestov said he kept in touch with friends in Moscow through a computer network. A few armed men still roamed Moscow's streets Tuesday, but Evfarestov said the city seemed safe.

Evfarestov said he and his friends helped protect Yeltsin during the 1991 coup attempt, but the recent clashes were more dangerous. Several of his friends told him bullets barely missed them outside the television station.

"Some were telling me it was kind of fortunate for them that the shots went a little to the right," he said. "That's scary."

Evfarestov said he, like most Russians, supported Yeltsin over Russian Vice President Alexander Rutskoi and other hard-liners. However, Evfarestov said Yeltsin's victory Monday came at a high price.

"I wouldn't really think that it was the right idea to make such bloodshed in the center of Moscow," he said. "Democracy should be established in a democratic way."

Now that Yeltsin has dissolved the Russian parliament until new elections can be held, Evfarestov said he feared the concentration of power in the hands of one man.

"The power should be separated between the government and legislative body," he said. "I don't think one person can issue laws and enforce them at one time."

Evfarestov said Yeltsin was a good leader, but as a product of Russia's communist years, he might not be the right man to lead a democracy.

"Yeltsin is not a perfect president," he said.

Beacon doubts plan to control college costs

By Alan Phelps
Senior Reporter

A federal proposal designed to contain college costs, which are rising faster than the median family income, is flawed, a UNL financial aid official said.

John Beacon, director of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid, said many of the reasons for increasing college costs were beyond the control of administrators — or government.

"I'm not sure it would keep the cost of going to college down," he said.

The Chronicle of Higher Education reported recently that Clinton administration officials were considering a plan involving "reasonable cost standards."

Under the plan, the government would decide how much money a student should pay for an education at a particular type of institution. The gap between actual cost and reasonable cost would have to be covered by the student or the institution.

Such a cap on government assistance theoretically might help keep college costs down by

restructuring the system so rising prices are discouraged.

Beacon said he would be against such a system.

"That would suggest that costs are not directly related to anything," he said. "That suggests institutions raise costs just to raise them."

In reality, Beacon said, college costs have increased for a variety of unavoidable reasons.

For example, many schools are dealing with higher maintenance costs because of decaying buildings, Beacon said. College campuses underwent a huge expansion after World War II, he said, and buildings constructed in those days are now due for repairs.

"Those costs have to be borne somewhere," Beacon said.

Also, the average college customer has changed. Schools used to rely heavily on traditional students who lived in residence halls and took full loads of classes for funds.

Nowadays, many students are nontraditional, taking only a few classes and living off campus.

"All that costs money," Beacon said. Beacon said capping federal college funds

— "We don't raise costs any more than we absolutely have to."
— Beacon
Financial aid director

could mean students would have to pay even more for school, because institutions would not be able to make up the difference.

"They may be forced to provide fewer services if they're stuck with a figure they can't live with," he said.

Fewer federal dollars also could mean more students would have to take out larger loans to afford classes, Beacon said, discouraging some from going to college altogether.

Beacon said the federal government historically had stayed out of education. If Washington wanted to somehow stave off the spiraling costs of college, it could be in for a tough job.

"We don't raise costs any more than we absolutely have to," Beacon said. "We're not out to make a huge profit."