

# Easter Seal official speaks at RHA meeting

By Mindy L. Leiter  
Staff Reporter

The Easter Seal Society needs help in raising funds to help children and disabled adults, a Nebraska representative for the society said at RHA's Sunday meeting.



Martha Chamberlain, director of development for Nebraska Easter Seal, gave the Residence Hall Association members ideas of ways they could help the society further its cause. The Easter Seal Society, which will celebrate its 75th anniversary in

1994, provides services to children and adults with disabilities to help them become independent, she said.

The society purchases hearing aids, wheelchairs, crutches and walkers for disabled people, Chamberlain said.

The Easter Seal Society donates wheelchairs to families, even if they aren't technically needy, she said.

"We give equipment to anyone who needs it," she said.

Chamberlain said insurance and government programs did not always cover the costs of expensive services for the disabled.

Karen Jones, mother of the Nebraska Easter Seal Ambassador child, Nicole, said she needed the society's help when her daughter was injured in

a car crash.

The one-car crash that occurred in 1985, killed Jones' husband and left her youngest daughter, Nicole, a paraplegic.

A few years after the accident, Jones' insurance company dropped Nicole from the family policy.

Jones said no other insurance company would sell her a policy that covered Nicole, so she was left with the bills for the expensive care Nicole needed.

The costs of Nicole's care were burdensome, she said. Nicole's wheelchair costs thousands of dollars. Nicole also uses a body brace to support her spine that costs from \$1,200 to \$1,600.

Jones said the Easter Seal Society absorbed some of the costs of caring for her daughter by providing the equipment Nicole needed.

"I don't know what we would have done without Easter Seals," she said.

Jones said Camp Easter Seal, which is supported by Nebraska Easter Seal, also helped her daughter become more independent. The camp, which is located in Milford, is open during the summer.

Chamberlain said counselors at Camp Easter Seal helped give disabled children and adults an opportunity to challenge themselves.



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## POLICE REPORT

### Beginning midnight Sunday

**9:56 a.m.** — Hit-and-run accident, Sandoz Residence Hall parking lot, \$300.

**10:13 a.m.** — Fence knocked down, Behlen Physics Laboratory, \$25.

**1:06 p.m.** — Purse stolen, Hamilton Hall, \$50.

**9:31 p.m.** — Bike stolen, Manter Hall, \$425.

**11:42 p.m.** — Cash stolen from wallet, Avery Hall, \$5.

### Beginning midnight Monday

**11:32 a.m.** — Stereo stolen from car, East Campus Loop, \$200 loss, \$100 damage.

**11:43 a.m.** — Wallet stolen, Mabel Lee Hall, \$10.

**3:50 p.m.** — Trespassing, Campus Recreation Center, case cleared with one arrest.

## Regents

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The commission's review of UNL's programs has been costly for UNL, he said.

From July 1, 1992, to June 1, Spanier said, 3,000 hours of UNL staff time were spent responding to the commission's questions. That time would be better spent working on university concerns, he said.

"It is not a good investment of energy on either end of these requests," he said.

"We have to pull (staff members) off the projects that they're working on to do these things, and that's not what those people are hired to do," Spanier said. "We have very creative people who are bogged down filling out reports."

Spanier said the commission had slowed change because of the paperwork.

Milliken said central administration staff also spent long hours responding to the commission. But paperwork time was not his major complaint against the commission.

"We're concerned about are the kinds of information they're after, not the staff work," Milliken said. "We need to know what they're looking for."

Peter Claussen of Hastings, chairman of the State College Board of Trustees, said negativism and fighting words would not change the commission's role.

"It's not going to be productive for the state of Nebraska if this were to be reduced to become a head-to-head

**“ We have very creative people who are bogged down filling out reports. ”**  
—Spanier  
UNL chancellor

conflict," Claussen said. "We don't want that."

John Moore of Sidney, chairman of the higher education council, agreed.

Moore said he wanted to cooperate with the coordinating commission to elicit positive change.

"If we reduce disagreements, then we can hope for better governing," Moore said.

The council wants to redefine the coordinating commission's role by amending the state laws regulating the commission.

The council's proposals for change include:

- Confining the coordinating commission to setting guidelines instead of implementing specific policies, most noticeably in enrollment and admission standards.

- Restricting the amount of budget information institutions must submit to new and expanded request items only.

- Prohibiting the commission from dictating in-depth academic program reviews.

- Prohibiting the commission from changing a governing board's decision on capital construction projects.

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