

Hazing

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James Griesen, vice chancellor of student affairs at UNL, also testified in favor of the bill. He said it would help students realize the seriousness of hazing.

Griesen said in the past, fraternity members dropped out of school to avoid sanctions. He said LB1129 would hold people responsible for their actions.

Members of fraternities, past and present, also testified on behalf of the bill.

In 1972, Joe Einsberg was hazed as a freshman pledge in a fraternity still on campus.

Einsberg would not identify his fraternity because he said he did not want to do damage to alumni.

"They know who they are, and they know I still remember," he said.

Einsberg said he was kidnapped on a pledge sneak and was taped to a pole on the corner of 16th and Vine streets. He said he had his clothes removed and was covered by a sheet.

The fraternity member hazed him and then sprayed the sheet with water, which froze, Einsberg said. He said the tape began to cut his hands and left a permanent scar.

While he was taped to the pole, Einsberg said, a Lincoln police officer drove by the scene and did not stop. Because of the incident, he said, the chapter's membership was cut to two members, and he thought hazing would not happen again at his fraternity.

Michael Murphy, a member of Phi Gamma Delta, said hazing still existed, and it was the enemy of the greek system. He said the Fiji chapter regretted what had happened to Jeff Knoll.

Murphy said if criminalizing hazing was the way to eliminate it on campus, then Fiji supported the measure.

No one testified against LB1129.



Jeffrey Knoll's father, Jim Knoll (right), attends a hearing Wednesday afternoon as Phi Gamma Delta Fraternity member Michael Murphy testifies in favor of state anti-hazing legislation.

Jay Calderon/DN

Huskers

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The shots were fired from a .22-caliber handgun, Lacey said, which had not been recovered as of Wednesday afternoon.

Investigators

Lacey said Nebraska State Patrol investigators found a bullet Wednesday in the trunk of Bohac's 1988 Oldsmobile Cutlass Calais and a portion of another bullet in the car's right rear quarter-panel.

Williams was a passenger in a vehicle with Kareem Moss and Ed Stewart, also Nebraska football players. The vehicle belonged to Kara Citrano, also a UNL student, who wasn't in the car.

Lacey also said Williams had been drinking at the time of the shooting. No alcohol-related charges were filed.

Earlier this week, Nebraska coach Tom Osborne said the shooting was accidental.

Lacey disagreed Wednesday. "We couldn't come to an intelligent and logical conclusion this was accidental," he said.

Osborne said at a Wednesday press conference some of his earlier statements about the incidents may have been inaccurate.

"There were a couple of things I said a couple of days ago that were not totally accurate," Osborne said. "I didn't have as much information as I have now."

Osborne said he learned more from examining the car at which Williams is accused of firing. He also talked to Bohac and most of the players involved.

However, Osborne said he was not at liberty to reveal additional details he learned about the case.

He said NU coaches would stand by Williams throughout the trial.

"We will definitely support Tyrone just as if we were his parents," Osborne said. "That doesn't mean we condone anything that was done."

Williams' status on the football team will not be determined until criminal charges are settled, Osborne said.

"I want to see exactly what he is charged with and we'll go from there," he said.

Cooperation

Osborne said team members were cooperating with the police investigation.

However, Lacey said the investigation initially was hindered by a lack of cooperation from Moss and Stewart.

Lincoln Police Chief Tom Casady would not comment on whether Osborne was cooperating.

Lincoln police also continued Wednesday investigating a second weekend incident involving NU football players at the Residence Inn in Lincoln.

Two officers were dispatched early Sunday morning to the motel, where several Nebraska football players and recruits were congregated.

Nebraska redshirt freshman Ramone Worthy reportedly was stabbed in the back and wingback Abdul Muhammad received lacerations to his right hand when unidentified assailants entered the room, Casady said.

Muhammad and Worthy were treated and released from St. Elizabeth Community Health Center.

Osborne said Monday the players involved intended to file charges. But as of Wednesday afternoon, no charges had been filed.

Connection

Osborne said he thought there was a connection between the fight at the motel and the shooting.

"What happened at the Residence Inn had something to do with the state of mind the players were in," he said.


Osborne said one assailant in the fight at the Residence Inn said something to the football players about going to get some "heat."

Lacey said Wednesday the players involved in the shooting were not the same ones involved in the Residence Inn fight.

The investigation is continuing, Lacey said. He was uncertain if additional charges would be filed.

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