

# Daily Nebraskan

February 16, 1994

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Vol. 93 No. 105

## SPORTS

### Gearing Up

Shanelle Porter, a senior sprinter on Nebraska's track and field team, hopes to break out of the pack as she finishes her Husker career.

Page 5

  
**Wednesday**  
57/33  
Today, partly sunny and mild.



Jon Waller/DN

Sen. Don Wesely of Lincoln, Gov. Ben Nelson and Chancellor Graham Spanier cut cake in the Nebraska Union in honor of the University of Nebraska's 125th birthday.

## Hundreds consume NU birthday cake

By Kara G. Morrison  
Senior Reporter

The University of Nebraska celebrated its 125th birthday Tuesday with more than 350 pounds of birthday cake.

Gov. Ben Nelson, Sen. Don Wesely of Lincoln and University of Nebraska-Lincoln Chancellor Graham Spanier were on hand to commemorate the Nebraska Legislature's Feb. 15, 1869, chartering of the University of Nebraska.

"It's a nice occasion to have a party," Spanier said.

About 200 students, faculty, staff and passers-by were on hand for the 2 p.m. birthday bash in the Nebraska Union.

Nelson read a resolution, passed by the Legislature Tuesday morning, recognizing the university for its contributions to "life, learning, culture and productivity of the state."

Wesely, who introduced the resolution, is a 1977 UNL graduate. He was a graduate student when he was elected to the Legislature in 1978.

The state senator said he had a personal interest in getting the resolution passed.

"I just wanted to say thank you to the university for all it has done," Wesely said. "I would not be where I am today without the University of Nebraska."

Wesely said the university offered him an excellent and affordable education and transformed him from a shy student, enabling him to become a state senator.

"I wouldn't have been able to afford a college out-of-state," he said. "I'm eternally grateful to the university."

Spanier began the birthday celebration by presenting the governor with a University of Nebraska tie and the first edition of "Nebraska" magazine.

The magazine, which chronicles the 125

years of NU's history, will be sent to the nearly 150,000 living NU graduates, Spanier said.

Following the governor's presentation, Spanier cut the birthday cake, giving the first piece to Nelson.

"It isn't just sugar and spice," Spanier said about the ingredients of the 20 giant sheet cakes, or 1,920 pieces of cake, that were served at the Nebraska Union and East Nebraska Union Tuesday.

Spanier, describing the preparation of the birthday cake for the event, said the ingredients included 100 pounds of cake mix, 100 eggs and 100 pounds of powdered sugar. It took 12 hours just to mix the batter, he said.

Spanier joked that one aspect of the ceremony could go down in history as one of his best decisions.

"I did pick the chocolate cake and the white frosting."

## Pretrial diversions an option for offenders

By Matthew Waite  
Senior Reporter

Pretrial diversions can give first-time offenders charged with a misdemeanor or minor felony a second chance, clearing their name of any criminal record.

Lee Flynn, director of Diversion Services in Lancaster County, said pretrial diversions offered the opportunity to drop a charge if the defendant agreed to complete a program designed by the counselor.

"It's an opportunity for people to earn their way out of trouble," Flynn said. "By earning your way out of trouble ... you learned what got you to commit the offense."

"If they haven't learned anything, they're going to get rearrested."

The program is especially important for students, Flynn said, who are working on an education.

Flynn said the program was tailored to the offense and the person.

For example, someone with a charge of minor in possession of alcohol would have to go to an alcohol-control class, Flynn said, and someone facing assault charges would go to an anger-control class.

In addition to attending a specialized class, Flynn said, the defendants have to perform a certain number of community service hours and pay a fee for the service.

Recently, incidents involving the Universi-

ty of Nebraska-Lincoln have resulted in defendants opting for pretrial diversions.

Five students from the University of Missouri-Columbia, who were caught stealing a statue of Abraham Lincoln from Sheldon Memorial Sculpture Garden, have entered the diversions program.

In addition to paying a combined \$15,000 fine, each of the five men must perform about 80 hours of community service. They must maintain good grades at their university and complete an art appreciation program.

Flynn said the Missouri students' case was a good example of the reason Diversion Services was available.

See DIVERSION on 3

## Fees committee slashes Women's Center budget

By Ann Stack  
Staff Reporter

The Committee for Fees Allocation voted 7-2 Tuesday to cut the Women's Center's 1994-95 budget by \$2,999.

In discussing the Nebraska Union's budget, the Women's Center, the Office for Student Involvement and the Culture Center all came under scrutiny.

In a budget request of \$1.7 million CFA

recommended the Nebraska Union receive \$1.6 million.

The committee suggested that instead of having a graduate assistant work in the Women's Center office, a student on work/study would be more cost-efficient.

Other budgeted expenses from the Women's Center were cut, such as telephone costs, maintenance and repairs and printing and copying.

"I think there are better ways they could

spend their money," CFA chairwoman Shawntell Hurtgen said. "There's a lot of money that's not used as well as it should be. This organization obviously reaches people, but they could do the same thing with less money."

CFA also voted to reduce travel and events expenses for the student involvement office by \$840.

Discussion on possible reduction of funds for student involvement groups' advertising and postage have been tabled until Thursday.

## Issues focus of candidates in first debate

By Matthew Waite  
Senior Reporter

A handshake and a mutual agreement to stick to the issues began the first ASUN presidential debate Tuesday at the East Nebraska Union.

Andrew Loudon, candidate for the VISION party, and J.B. Howell, RESUME party candidate, agreed not to attack each other on a personal level during the campaign.

The candidates met in the union for a question-and-answer debate that drew more than 40 people.

Howell said he wanted to bring a new light and new ideas to the Association of Students of the University of Nebraska. He said he would guarantee to deliver all of the promises in his platform.

Howell said the RESUME party started off as a joke party.

"We're not going to lie to you that this won't look good for us on our resumé but we're ... not here to stuff our resúms," he said.

Loudon said his party was of a more serious nature.

"You have to know where you are going and have a vision for those you want to lead," he said. Loudon said with the 87 members of the VISION party, he would have a collective vision for the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Howell said he could represent the students just as well as VISION by going out and talking to student groups.

"When you look at what the executive ticket can represent, they are basically the same thing," he said. "We're all white, two of us are male and one of us is female."

"I can just as well as anybody represent the student body — if the student body wants to be represented."

Loudon said he was proud of the diversity of his ticket. He said it would be easier for VISION to gather student opinions because of the high number of VISION candidates.

Both candidates took stands against establishing a separate engineering college at the University of Nebraska at Omaha.

"My own personal belief is that this is a waste," Howell said. He said a one-hour drive was not a big deal if it meant sacrificing the quality of education.

"If (the group of Omaha businesses) wants to

See DEBATE on 3

## Student faces second charge

From Staff Reports

A UNL student, charged with making terroristic threats Monday, was arraigned Tuesday on a charge of willfully destroying property.

Police said Seth Davis, who was arrested Monday and charged with threatening his ex-girlfriend and pulling a gun, also broke out her windshield. Police said Davis told them he couldn't remember whether he broke the windshield before or after he threatened her.

The property charge is a Class II misdemeanor with a maximum penalty of six months in prison and a \$1,000 fine. Davis' earlier charge was a Class IV felony, which carries a maximum penalty of five years' imprisonment and a \$10,000 fine.

There was no bail set on the second charge, but Davis remained in jail late Tuesday on a \$10,000 percentage bail bond for the previous charge.

Davis, a junior engineering major at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, will go to trial on Feb. 28 for making terroristic threats and on March 9 for destruction of property.