

# Daily Nebraskan

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## INSIDE TUESDAY

### SPORTS

■ Veland takes snap at quarterback, Page 7

### ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

■ Medieval-style dining found at Huey's, Page 9

PAGE 2: Clinton lifts sanctions on Haiti

SEPTEMBER 27, 1994

## Frazier's blood clot leaves many questions

By Mitch Sherman  
Senior Reporter

Nebraska quarterback Tommie Frazier, hospitalized Sunday afternoon at Bryan Memorial Hospital because of a blood clot, will miss at least Saturday's game against Wyoming and maybe the rest of the season, football coach Tom Osborne said Monday.

Frazier was admitted to the hospital Sunday morning to run tests on his right leg, which had been sore since Sept. 17, the day Nebraska

played UCLA.

The 6-foot-1, 205-pound junior from Bradenton, Fla., was released from the hospital late Sunday morning, only to be recalled later that afternoon because tests showed a possible clot behind his right knee.

Osborne said Frazier was treated intravenously Sunday and Monday with medication to dissolve the clot.

"It has reduced about 25 percent in 24 hours," Osborne said after Monday's practice, "which is a good sign."

Initially, Osborne said, Frazier was told by doctors there was a 50 percent chance the clot would be dissolved by this type of medication. If the medication works, Frazier would likely be cleared to play after a short period of rest, he said.

"If they can get the clot dissolved," Osborne said, "they are going to try to come up with some strategy that would be fairly safe to not have the clot reform, and, at the same time, allow him to play. Now whether they are going to be able to do that or not, I don't know."

He said the next couple of days appeared to be crucial concerning Frazier's return to football. Even if the clot does not dissolve, however, Frazier's health won't be in jeopardy as long as he stays away from contact.

John Edwards, chief of vascular surgery at Saint Joseph Hospital in Omaha, said Frazier's injury would require treatment with blood thinners if the current medication did not solve the problem.

See FRAZIER on 8



Damon Lee/DN

UNL senior Todd Nelson spent most of the last year studying at the State Technical University of St. Petersburg, Russia. While in Russia, the UNL Russian club president discovered first-hand what it's like to spend time in a Russian jail cell.

## Safety in Russia learned hard way

By Jeff Randall  
Staff Reporter

Many students take advantage of the opportunity to study abroad every year. Most of them expect an educational, entertaining and safe experience.

University of Nebraska-Lincoln senior Todd Nelson, who spent last year at the State Technical University of St. Petersburg in Russia, found that foreign study could teach students a great deal and be fun. Safety, however, isn't always a guarantee.

During his 11-month stay in St. Petersburg, Nelson learned more than just the history and language of Russia. He learned about the darker side of present-day Russian society.

Nelson not only witnessed several muggings and beatings, he was also a victim.

After five days in St. Petersburg, police arrested, beat and jailed Nelson. The experience, he said, was terrifying.

"After I was beaten up by the guards, they took all of my money and threw me into a 45-degree jail cell in my underwear," he said. "I was stuck there for five-and-a-half hours and had no idea what would happen next."

Nelson said the time he spent in the jail cell was not only frightening, but embarrassing.

"In Russia, underwear is big, flowing and covers a lot," he said. "Meanwhile, I was sitting there, looking just like an obvious American in my bikini briefs. It was a very difficult situation."

Nelson said he had no idea why he had been arrested or how long he would stay there. The eventual reason given was public drunkenness, although Nelson said he hadn't been drinking prior to the arrest.

"I was just helping some drunk guy who had passed out across the street when the police van pulled up, and they threw me in," he said.

After his release, Nelson went to the

American Consulate to complain. He found that his case wasn't unique.

"The guy I talked to there had just been released from the hospital because the same thing happened to him," he said. "While we were trading horror stories, another guy came in and said the same thing had happened to him."

The problem, Nelson said, stemmed from a local police station in St. Petersburg. He said officers searched for foreigners to take advantage of them.

Nelson said his experience with the police department was one of his first indications that not all Russian natives were hospitable to foreigners, particularly Americans.

"A lot of the younger people were very nice," he said. "It varied from person to person, but several of them were genuinely interested in America."

"Most of the older people, though, were pretty anti-foreigner. If I spoke English on the Metro or in other public places, I would get a lot of strange looks."

Nelson said his foreign status was difficult to hide. Russians, he said, have several ways of spotting foreigners.

"People there could tell where you were from just by looking at your shoes," he said. "To me, it was a very strange thing to find people looking at your feet so much."

Foreigners also were frequent targets of the St. Petersburg Mafia, Nelson said. The Mafia didn't really have prejudices, he said, but foreigners would inadvertently get into trouble with them.

Foreigners wouldn't recognize Mafia members, he said, and would often offend members of the Mafia without even knowing it. But they would soon realize their mistakes, Nelson said.

The result of the offending behavior was most often a stomping, where a person was severely beaten and kicked by gang members.

"There wouldn't just be one guy, either,"

See VISIT on 3

## Regent hopefuls set priorities for university

### Hassebrook wants education for all

By DeDra Jansson  
Senior Reporter

For Chuck Hassebrook, ensuring that higher education is accessible to all Nebraskans is a top priority.

Hassebrook, a candidate in the 3rd District race for the University of Nebraska Board of Regents, said he was worried that rapid increases in the cost of attending the university threatened that accessibility.

"The purpose of creating the institution was to make higher education accessible to ordinary folks," Hassebrook said. "I fear we're in

danger of losing that."

As a regent, Hassebrook said he would address that and several other issues he considered top priorities for the university.

Among those priorities are improving the university's agriculture programs and addressing NU's policy of equal recognition for equal work of women and minorities.

The regents have advocated a strong policy on equity in hiring and granting promotions, Hassebrook said.



See HASSEBROOK on 6

### Vrbicky stresses ending brain drain

By DeDra Jansson  
Senior Reporter

Keith Vrbicky is concerned about the quality of higher education.

That's why he's running in the 3rd District race for the University of Nebraska Board of Regents.

"Higher education is of vital importance to our children, to our children's future," Vrbicky said. "I want to get involved in trying to help make sure that higher education is of high quality."

### Regents' role

Vrbicky offered the following philosophy on the role of the Board of Regents:

"The job of the board is to develop policy that will make the university as strong as it can be and guide it into the future," Vrbicky said.

Vrbicky said the quality of a university was measured by the quality of its students and faculty.

One of the university's top priorities, then, should be recruiting Nebraska's top high school graduates, he said. Many of those top graduates leave the state to obtain higher education, he said.

"We do have a brain drain in our state," Vrbicky said.

See VRBICKY on 6