

Berkshire

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NU President Dennis Smith's one university concept.

Berkshire said it was hard to transfer credits between the University of Nebraska at Omaha and UNL, and that was a "tragedy." He said the two schools did not have a transfer agreement to make transferring credits easy.

"That's insane," he said. "They are members of the same institution."

A student enrolled in classes at any Nebraska state school should be eligible to attend class at all schools, Berkshire said. He said many students transferred between campuses before getting a degree.

"We need to streamline the system of education to make it user-friendly," he said. "We're there to serve the people. We're not there to create big budgets."

University relations

Berkshire said the structure of higher education in Nebraska was unique to other states.

"In some ways, we are all partners," he said. "In others, we are adversaries — we are pitted against each other."

"In a perfect world, that wouldn't happen," Berkshire said. "There would be plenty of money to throw around."

The regents and the Legislature have a responsibility to meet the needs of the students and the taxpayers of the state, he said.

Berkshire said meeting needs didn't have to mean more money. "A billion dollars is enough," he

said. "The problem is the people of Nebraska are not getting enough education for their money."

The rise in tuition is "terrible," Berkshire said.

"The burden placed on the students gets greater every year because the regents refuse to make tough decisions," he said.

Regents' role

Berkshire said the regents should stand back and let the campus chancellors and the NU president do their jobs.

"The role of a regent is to hire and fire the president and get out of the way and let him run it," he said. "You are there to govern. They are there to administrate."

"The regents' relationship with the chancellors is to hire them, give them the support they need and let them do their job," Berkshire said.

Berkshire said the regents and the chancellors should stay out of one another's line of work. He said the regents should work through Smith to address issues to the chancellors.

Engineering

Berkshire said the regents should never have been involved in the debate about the establishment of a separate engineering college at UNO.

Debate about the engineering program would have never emerged if the program had been better administered, Berkshire said.

Berkshire said he agreed with the original consultants' report stating that Omaha needed a college.

"The two parties ... are so diametrically opposed that they will never get along," he said.

Skrupa

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to help students with the purchases.

Crossroads

Skrupa said she was worried about how the university's resources would be focused in the future. The university system is at a crossroads in deciding where to apply its resources, Skrupa said.

The system must decide whether to continue to emphasize research or to reposition resources to bolster educational quality, she said.

"And all that comes down to money," Skrupa said. "We can't be all things to all people."

"We're not ready to meet the 21st century."

Skrupa said the regents should be looking to the future when they made these decisions.

One university

The idea of the NU system being four separate colleges with UNL as the flagship campus is "old-fashioned," Skrupa said. She said, however, that the one-university concept has not yet taken hold in name or practice.

"The concept's out there, but it hasn't been accepted," Skrupa said. "If we are going to be one institution, then we should have what I call portability of credits."

A student should be able to transfer between state colleges and not have to worry about whether their credits would follow, she said.

"If you are going to be one university, let's not just throw the concept out, let's mean it," Skrupa said.

University relations

The regents are captive to the Legislature's budget decisions, she said. The Legislature budgets the money to the university, and the regents allocate the money to the individual campuses.

"We're independent of one another but nothing happens until the legislature gives us the money," Skrupa said.

The regents and the Legislature must work together to benefit Nebraska, because "the name of the game is education," she said.

Engineering

Skrupa said her views on the engineering college debate were clear: Omaha needs a college separate from the one in Lincoln.

"If you can fill up the classroom in both places, what's the difference?" she asked. "An engineering college here in Omaha is crucial to the economic well being of the state."

Skrupa said formation of the college had other broad-based implications for the state.

"We, as a state, cannot depend on agriculture as a tax base," she said. A separate college would attract more engineering jobs to the state, Skrupa said.

The separate college can be done without duplication, except at the lower level courses, Skrupa said.

With the commission formed by Smith reviewing the possibilities of the separate college idea, Skrupa said the group should be left alone.

"I just don't think we should stick our horn into it," she said. "They should act without any political or regental pressures."

Rosemary Skrupa

Rosemary Skrupa is a graduate of the Creighton Law college and practicing lawyer in Omaha. She has been an Omaha municipal court judge and was the first woman president of the Omaha Public Power District's board of directors. She was elected to the Board of Regents for the first time in 1988.

Richard Berkshire

Richard Berkshire has been practicing law in Omaha since 1979 and graduated from the University of Nebraska law college. He is married and has four children ranging in ages from 8 to 1. He has served on the Metro Community College Board for eight years.

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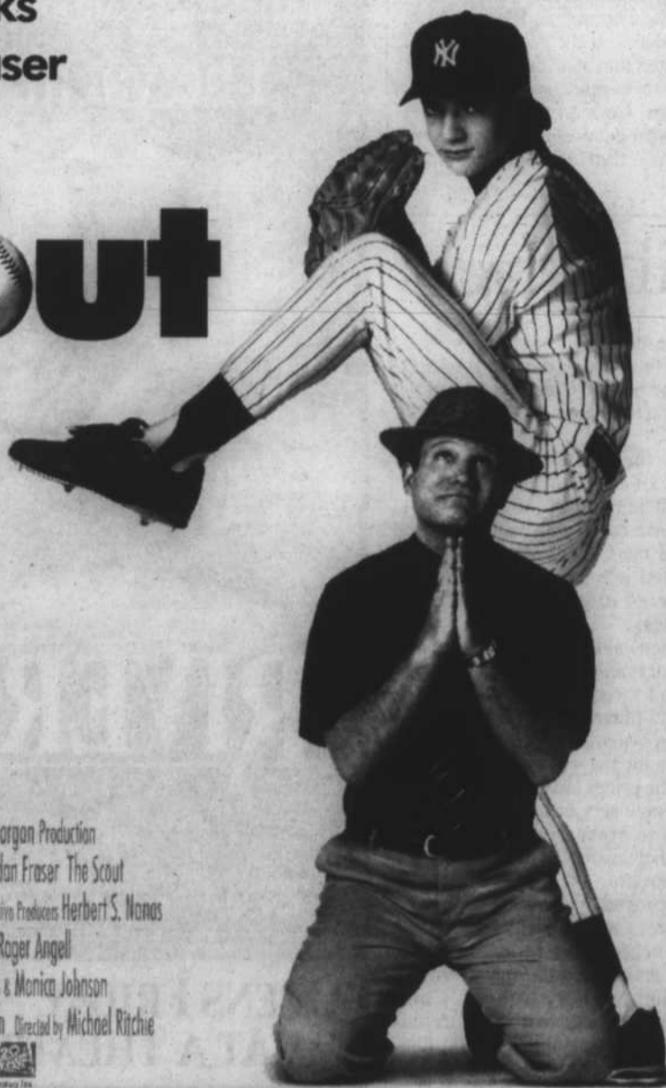
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Police still looking for suspect in shooting of football player

From Staff Reports

Police still are looking for an Omaha man charged in the Sept. 10 shooting of University of Nebraska football player Brendan Holbein.

A warrant was issued on Tuesday for Walter C. Smith, 22, in connection with the shooting.

Lincoln Police Sgt. Ann Heermann said police had had no

contact with Smith since the warrant was issued on Tuesday.

Holbein was shot at a party at 3087 Vine St. after a fight began in the street. Police reports indicate that Holbein was walking to a car to leave when someone fired two shots, apparently trying to end the fight.

The second shot, fired from a 9 mm handgun, grazed Holbein at waist level on his left side.

POLICE REPORT

Beginning midnight Monday

3:50 p.m. — Bike stolen, Neihardt Residence Center, \$454 loss.
7:27 p.m. — Wallet and contents stolen, Campus Recreation Center, \$12 loss.

Beginning midnight Tuesday

10:18 a.m. — Alarm/security, accidental trip.
11:03 a.m. — Injury/sickness, Area 17D near South Memorial Stadium, person fell, transported to Lincoln General Hospital.
12:13 p.m. — Bike tire taken, Pound Residence Hall, \$100 loss.
1:25 p.m. — Gas leak, 19th and Vine streets.

2:49 p.m. — Alcohol/drunken, 1901 Y St., person transported to detoxification center.

3:37 p.m. — Headlight covers taken, Area 20 Old Headquarters lot, \$50 loss.
4:29 p.m. — Injury/sickness, 18th and Vine streets, person stung by bee.
6:25 p.m. — Miscellaneous, Love Library.

10:17 p.m. — License plate taken, Area 28 near Reunion.
11:13 p.m. — Bookbag stolen, Westbrook Music Building, \$147 loss.

Beginning midnight Wednesday

12:31 a.m. — Cash taken, Westbrook Music Building, \$28 loss.
2:48 a.m. — Alarm security, Wick Alumni Center, accidental trip.

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