

Law & Order

A LOOK AT CRIME ON CAMPUS AND IN THE COMMUNITY

Hardin to get public defender

By Brian Sharp
Senior Reporter

Luther Hardin, a University of Nebraska football player charged with third-degree assault, will have to wait until Monday to meet with his new lawyer.

But Shelly Stall, who had represented him, said the charge probably would be dismissed. Stall would not elaborate on her reasons.

Hardin, a junior outside linebacker, has pleaded not guilty to a Nov. 17 incident in which prosecutors allege he struck a woman in the face. Hardin also was ticketed after the incident for third-degree sexual assault.

Susan Tast, the public defender now assigned to Hardin, won't take over the case until Jan. 23. Stall would not comment on why she had been dismissed from the case, but she said it had to do with policy and did not involve any action by Hardin.

Jodi Nelson, deputy county attorney, said only the one charge had been filed because there was no evidence to support the sexual assault

charge.

Police reports gave the following account of the incident:

Hardin allegedly approached two women from behind as they were leaving the Hurricane, 1110 O St., shortly after closing time. One woman reported she felt someone come up behind her and lift her skirt.

The alleged assault victim, who was walking with her, verified that account and reported she then saw Hardin grab or pinch the other woman's buttocks.

Hardin told police he didn't remember lifting the skirt or grabbing her. He also reported he didn't remember the assault.

The woman said she slapped Hardin after his initial action. Hardin then punched her in the nose, she reported.

Hardin was taken to Lancaster County Jail and found to have a blood-alcohol content of .124, which is over the legal content of .10.

Hardin finished the football season as the third-string outside linebacker.

Businessmajor's skull fractured

From Staff Reports

A UNL student was assaulted Monday night in a south Lincoln residence, police said.

Adam Bailey, a 23-year-old business major, sustained a fracture on his skull near his left eye, Lincoln Police Sgt. Ann Heermann said.

Police arrested Michael Noel on first degree assault charges. Noel, 34, struck Bailey while the two were playing cards, police report.

Noel allegedly knocked Bailey from his chair and kicked him in the head, knocking him unconscious.

Bailey, who lives at 1814 F St., was treated and released from Lincoln General hospital.

Allen talks of Spanierless UNL

By Angie Schendt
Staff Reporter

NU Regent Robert Allen continued to criticize UNL Chancellor Graham Spanier Wednesday night.

At a meeting of the College Republicans, Allen said because Spanier's background was not in administration, his leadership was wrong for UNL.

Allen said he would like a different order of priorities in the running of the university, and less attention paid to personal interests. Students should come first, he said.

"Spanier likes to do magic tricks and be out in front," Allen said.

Allen also said that resources were not being evenly allocated among the university's colleges.

"I am surprised to see the lack of support for the College of Arts and Sciences," Allen said.

The core of the university is the College of Arts and Sciences, he said, and more money should be concentrated in that area. He said repairing halls like Burnett and getting more office spaces for professors were areas to improve on.

Allen said another area that needed to be improved was the review process for deans. The former dean of the College of Business Administration, Gary Schwendiman, did not fail, he said, but rather the review system failed.

Allen said he received about 50 letters and many recommendations about the quality of former College of Engineering and Technology Dean Stan Liberty.

He said Liberty's resignation showed that Spanier had failed to encourage quality faculty members to remain at UNL.

Another system that hasn't worked

was the election of regents, he said.

Many talented people don't run for regents, and that problem might be solved if the governor and legislators appointed regents, he said. Gov. Ben Nelson would do a good job at appointing regents, he said.

Allen also criticized the amount of money spent on construction projects around campus.

"We waste millions of dollars on construction," he said.

For the future, Allen said he would like to see more building continuity around city campus.

UNL should hire fewer administrators and more faculty, Allen said.

The university should act as the national champion football team did, he said.

"They achieved success with limited resources and population. It was an amazing feat," he said.

Police and minorities talk on TV

By Chad Lorenz
Staff Reporter

Lincoln minorities and police discussed improving their relationship at a televised forum on Wednesday.

"We as a people need to make an effort to be more perfect in our interactions," said Gene Crump, director of the Central States Compact.

The monthly program, "Facets," is sponsored by the Lincoln Public Schools Multicultural Advisory Committee.

The forum aired on cable access channel 21 and Nebraska Public Radio, KUCV, 90.9 FM.

Moderators first asked minority representatives about issues and their concerns with police minority relations.

Teresita Aguilar, a member of the Inter-cultural Coalition, said most minority children grew up learning to respect the law, but fear law-en-

forcement officers.

"We learned that we don't have the same rights as others," she said.

The panel said the police could help end this fear and distrust by getting closer to the minority community.

Judi Morgan, executive director of the Ponca Tribe of Nebraska-Lincoln Field Office, said police needed to humanize minorities to defeat prejudices.

"We want police going out and not being above the people but beside the people," she said.

Marty Ramirez of the Inter-cultural Coalition said police needed language and cultural tools to deal with minorities, especially in potentially dangerous situations.

"In those situations, language is just as powerful as the weapon and armor they wear," he said.

Dorothy Anderson, chair of the Lincoln Citizen Police Advisory

Board, said the first step anyone could take in reforming law enforcement is to file a complaint with the Police Advisory Board.

No complaints had been filed by the Hispanic community, she said.

The board would examine the complaints and try to change "anything that raises a flag at us," she said.

Jim Baird, acting Lincoln police chief, said minority and police interactions could be improved by a partnership with the community and criminal justice system.

Baird listed programs such as Neighborhood Watch and School Resource Officers that already teamed police and community together.

Crump said stressing education, responsibilities of citizens and the Citizens Police Advisory Board were the keys to police-minority relations.

"That starts the ball rolling," Crump said.

Power to appoint Regents opposed

By Melanie Brandert
Staff Reporter

ASUN senators passed a bill Wednesday directing Government Liaison Committee members to lobby against Gov. Ben Nelson's proposal to appoint members to the NU Board of Regents.

Nelson's proposal, which was drafted last week by Sen. Ardyce Bohlke of Hastings, would give Nelson the power to appoint regents, who are currently elected by Nebraska voters.

Dave Milligan, speaker of the senate, said at the meeting there was nothing that indicated that regents, if

appointed, would be responsible for students' concerns. He said he didn't think appointed officials would be accountable to students.

"If we want to continue to keep the highest level of administration for the university, it's crucial that we do not allow the proposal to appoint the Board of Regents to pass," Milligan said.

Robert Caldwell, College of Law senator, said if Nelson appointed regents, he would have direct control over them.

"I think we want to look at the fact that appointed boards are not always representative of people's concerns," he said.

The senate also unanimously

passed a bylaw change that designates the second vice president as the chairman of the Student Life Commission.

The change, which will take place with next year's senate, also transfers the student life commissioner's duties over to the second vice president and eliminates the commissioner's position.

Judy Rishel, second vice president of the Association of Students of the University of Nebraska, said at the meeting that the bylaw change would bring ASUN committees under the second vice president's authority and would help add to the role of future second vice presidents.

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