

Montigo Bay

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evening. Johanns was out of the office, and officials at the mayor's office were unsure of his plans.

Regardless of whether the mayor signs, the commission has the authority to stay any decision pending a hearing, McArthur said. That means that for now, the doors of Montigo Bay will remain open for business, he said.

Bill Austin, city attorney, said the vote possibly marked the first time that the council had voted to revoke a liquor license.

"I can't recall the last time we had a full-blown revocation hearing," Austin said.

For Cindy Johnson, vice-chairwoman of the council and chairwoman of the internal liquor commission, the decision was warranted and overdue.

"We have to have the guts to yank a license if they (bar owners) are not being responsible," she said. "We can't let the violations continue."

"And promises (that things will change) sometimes get to a point where you have to go with what's reality."

More and more liquor licenses are coming into Lincoln, Johnson said, and several bars are running a "risky business." Montigo Bay was operating at that point, she said, and making promises it wasn't keeping.

None of the other bars have fallen to the level of Montigo Bay, she said, and Monday's vote was not a symbol of things to come.

Kugler said the vote had made him a symbol. Montigo Bay was unfairly singled out, he said, and the bar has already been

affected.

"(The decision) was straight-out, 'railroad you out of business,'" Kugler said.

When Kugler returned to Montigo Bay after the vote, he got a call from a man in charge of the bar's campus promotion, he said. The man told him that several sororities had voted not to do business with Montigo Bay because of the city's crack-down.

Council members maintain the bar's management brought the action on themselves. For councilman Curt Donaldson, the message was simple.

Donaldson said a liquor license was not a learner's permit. It's a serious responsibility, he said, and so was Monday's decision to revoke the license.

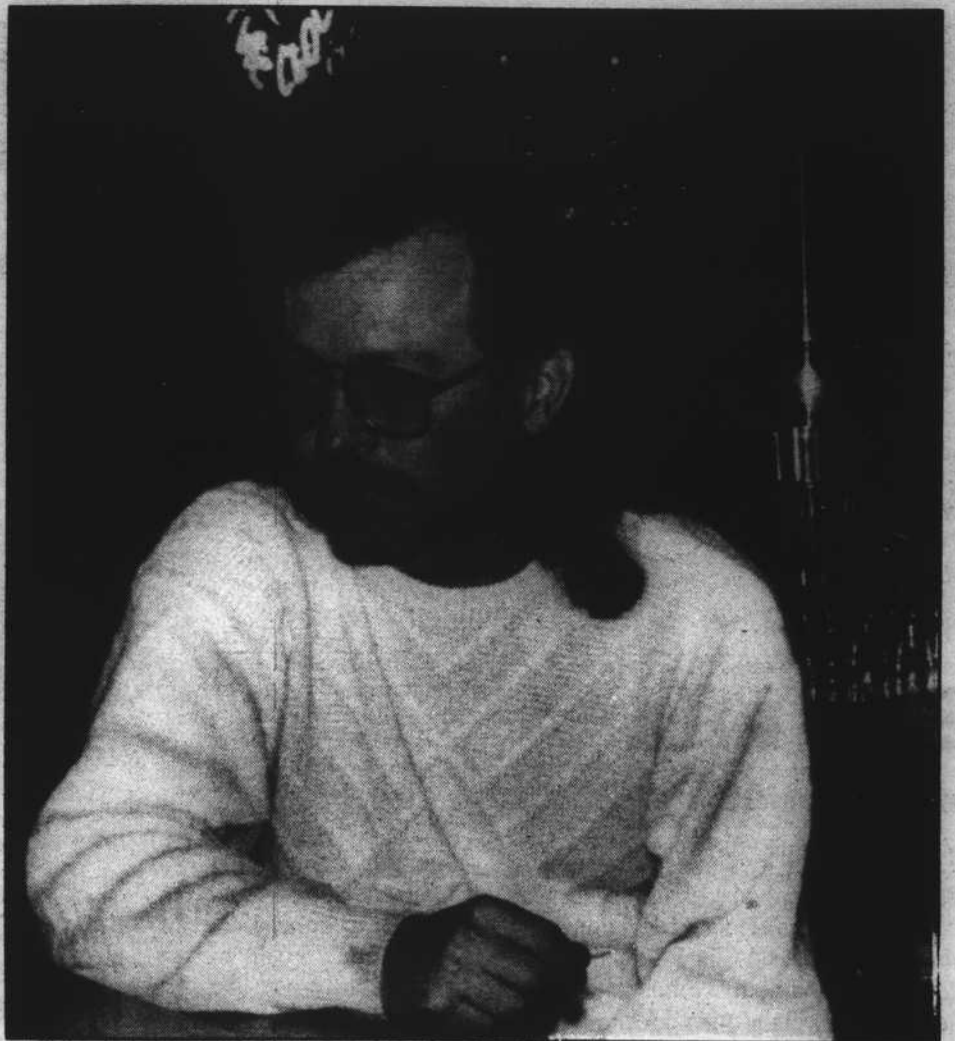
McArthur said he would argue before the commission that Kugler had not been given enough time to correct problems and take action on the council's demands.

At an informal meeting between the council and Montigo Bay, held Dec. 13, a set of guidelines and actions was agreed upon to correct the problems, he said. But the council followed that up with a hearing to revoke the license Jan. 30.

A month and a half is not enough time, McArthur said.

The issue was rushed, he said. Now, given the rarity of the situation and ambiguity of the law, there is a lot of confusion about how to proceed, he said.

McArthur said the commission hearing would take up to six months before any decision was passed down. Montigo Bay is expected to continue liquor sales during that time, he said.



Scott Bruhn/DN

Chris Kugler, co-owner of Montigo Bay, sits at the bar following a vote by the Lincoln City Council to revoke Montigo Bay's liquor license.

Officer files suit seeking \$1 million from accused

From Staff Reports

UNL Police officer Robert Soflin, who was wounded in a Sept. 12 shooting, has filed a lawsuit seeking more than \$1 million from the man charged with shooting him.

Soflin filed the lawsuit against Gerald Schlondorf on last Wednesday in Lancaster County District Court. The lawsuit claims disability and medical expenses, lost wages and suffering resulting from wounds he received to his right hand, neck and shoulder.

Schlondorf, a former criminal justice major at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, fired nine shots at Soflin, police allege, at a September incident at 16th and R streets.

District Court Judge Jeffre Chevront has put a hold on Schlondorf's bank accounts. Schlondorf had asked that a public defender be appointed for him because he couldn't afford one.

Soflin's statement in the lawsuit, however, states that Schlondorf has an account totaling several thousand dollars at the National Bank of Commerce in Lincoln. He also has a \$136,000 money market account at the Bank of Clarks in Clarks, Neb., Soflin states.

Schlondorf, 31, remains in custody on nine felony charges including an attempted second-degree murder.

Soflin would not comment on the lawsuit or the case Monday night.

Committee

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by six separate governing boards, one for each of the six community college areas.

By merging funding and control, Wickersham said, community colleges would be able to coordinate resources and programming and increase access and service to students.

But Mary Harding, of the Southeast Community College governing board, said she was concerned that the bill centralizes authority at a time when most movement is toward decentralization.

"It's astounding we have to deal with a proposal that heads in just the opposite direction," Harding said.

In other action, the Education Committee voted to advance to the floor of the Legislature a resolution that would urge Congress to continue supporting public broadcasting.

LR48, sponsored by Sen. Roger Wehrbein, recognizes the quality of public broadcasting in Nebraska and the unique circumstances of public broadcasting in a sparsely populated

state, such as Nebraska.

Wehrbein said Nebraska had an exceptional public broadcasting system and should not lose the valuable programming used in homes, schools and businesses across the state.

He said it would be senseless to waste the investment the state had committed to infrastructure for public broadcasting.

"It would be a mistake to give this up at this time," Wehrbein said.

Wehrbein said if state public broadcasting lost federal funds, the Legislature would be hard pressed to make up all the funds. Wehrbein is chairman of the Appropriations Committee, which sets the state's budget.

Even if funds were restored to public broadcasting in Nebraska, Wehrbein said, national programs couldn't be replaced.

In action by the full Legislature, a bill that would require certain lottery vendors to disclose campaign contributions received second-round approval by state lawmakers. LB28 was moved to Final Reading on 31-4 vote.

LB274, a bill that would prohibit interference with a person engaged in hunting, trapping or fishing, also was given second-round approval on a voice vote.

200,000 people above the poverty line.

"It's time for us to start to look at not just playing catch-up," he said.

But five opponents besides Lambi disagreed. Jerry Stilmock of the National Federation of Independent Business said the 24 percent increase in the minimum wage would lead to more poverty, as low-skilled workers found themselves out of work and more jobs became part-time.

Lambi also said the higher wage would raise unemployment. The last time the minimum wage increased, Lambi said, Spaghetti Works started making sauce in one central kitchen, instead of each restaurant making its own.

"I'm not a fancy economist, but I can tell you I don't have five sauce people anymore," he said.

Another increase could see a person who spreads butter on bread get fired.

"That's five more jobs gone," Lambi said.

Wage

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The states, including Iowa, the "radical entity to the east," were seeing success.

Hall also cited studies from after the last increase — which went from \$3.35 to \$4.25 in 1991 — to show a higher wage wouldn't lead to a rash of firings. He pointed to statistics showing that .6 percent of teen-agers at fast-food restaurants were the only firings. Adults were not affected, he said.

In New Jersey, Hall said, a minimum wage of \$5.05 led to an increase in teen-age employment at fast-food restaurants.

"In other words, folks felt an incentive to go to work," Hall said.

Hall said the increase would be the best way to fight poverty and could be considered welfare reform. He said the 1991 increase brought

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