

Community group vows to keep Renteria issue alive

By Paula Lavigne
Senior Reporter

Community members vowed to stop giving lip service to the Renteria family, and would instead focus on keeping the issue alive at an Intercultural Coalition meeting Monday.

The Intercultural Coalition, a grass-roots organization of citizens that is still in the planning stages, addressed issues related to the Renteria case and cultural awareness in Lincoln.

Carlos Monzon, the Renteria

family's attorney, said he met with County Attorney Gary Lacey on Monday. Monzon said Lacey told him that he looked at all the evidence and decided not to act on it.

"The people responsible for this are not being treated in the same light," he said. "When Candice Harms was killed, Lacey moved to get the death penalty."

Monzon then turned to members of the coalition and asked them to send a message to the city by holding a candlelight vigil for Renteria.

Some coalition members wanted

to hold a protest instead, but Monzon said it would not reflect the peaceful intentions of the Renteria family.

Monzon also said he wanted to arrange a meeting between Lacey and members of the coalition.

Leroy Casados, a coalition member, said the Renteria family would not see justice unless they had a "different voice."

Casados said the Renteria's should fire Monzon and hire a stronger lawyer.

"Monzon just stepped out of law school," he said. "He doesn't know

where the courtroom is yet."

Monzon declined to elaborate on his discussion with Lacey and said he would continue with his civil case.

Randy Thomas, a coalition member, said the group should consider seeking help at the federal level. Thomas said he would contact U.S. senators in Washington and State Sen. Ernie Chambers of Omaha.

"I'd be going for the throat," he said. "You need someone like that who would be willing to go for the jugular."

The coalition also suggested:

- creating a community audit on multicultural awareness.

- contacting national news media and political figures.

- translating all meetings and related information into Spanish.

- publishing a newsletter that would inform the community of developments.

Thomas also said he wanted to give the case as much publicity as possible.

"We will be the people who will go to court and put Lincoln on the map," he said.

POLICE REPORT

Beginning Midnight Sunday

10:16 a.m. — 14th and Avery, larceny from automobile, window broken, \$270 loss, \$100 damage.

12:40 p.m. — Harper-Schramm-Smith lot, vandalism/criminal mischief, side mirror broken, \$75 damage.

1:32 p.m. — 17th and R, vandalism/criminal mischief, window broken, \$150 damage.

3:16 p.m. — Memorial Stadium, burglary, unknown damage.

7:06 p.m. — Nebraska Hall, coat and wallet taken, \$87 loss.

8:00 p.m. — Campus Recreation, wallet taken, \$5 loss.

8:14 p.m. — Campus Recreation, pants and keys taken, \$46 loss.

8:55 p.m. — UNL Police Headquarters, follow up, items located.

10:34 p.m. — Selleck Quadrangle, miscellaneous.

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DESIGN DETAIL

NO. 6

BUILDING THE ESSENTIAL SPRING WARDROBE

Sixth in a Series of Wardrobe Necessities



What To Wear With

THE DENIM VEST

The emphasis this spring is on options. And with our new updated selection of denim vests, the choices have never been better.

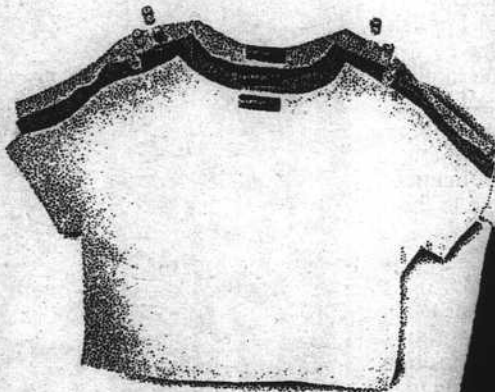
Or more versatile. Wear them as a great sleeveless top.

Or layer one with a novelty knit top or sweater. Either way, our updated denim selections are a great way to dress up a print skirt or even a print short, like our blackwatch pair here!



THE DENIM VEST

The denim vest is an essential item this season. From updated zipper fronts to classic pearl buttoned styles, there probably isn't a more versatile or essential piece for the season. From around \$68



NOVELTY KNI TEEES

One of the season's most essential basics! Our fun, novelty knits are great worn alone, or under a denim vest. They also look great under a sleeveless print dress. Dozens of styles. From about \$42



HANDMADE EARRINGS

Accent your favorite new outfit with our handmade sterling silver earrings. Choose from various stone inlays or etched sterling silver styles. From around \$38



NOVELTY SWEATERS

For a great layered look, pair your new denim vest with one of our exclusive sweaters. Choose from ribbed basics, crocheted detailed and other fun novelty styles! From about \$34



HANDBAGS

Finish it off with our leather purses, handmade exclusively for us in Italy. Choose from moc croc favorites as well as woven and straw styles. From about \$38

Legislature

Continued from Page 1

glad some supported expanding engineering education in Omaha but that the university was moving to expand the programs.

A separate college still was not needed, he said.

In December, Smith outlined and the regents approved proposals to improve engineering statewide, especially in Omaha.

Those proposals included the renovation of the engineering building in Omaha, planning money for a new engineering structure at the University of Nebraska at Omaha, scholarship money to recruit top Nebraska students and the expansion of programs at UNO.

Those plans are being implemented by William Splinter, interim dean of the College of Engineering and Technology, and Joan Leitzel, senior vice chancellor for academic affairs at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

The Appropriations Committee is considering the NU budget and the funding of the engineering education proposals.

Sen. David Bernard-Stevens of North Platte, who grilled all those testifying, asked Smith if politics was behind the expansion of UNO's engineering programs.

"If UNO themselves had not requested funds, where did the cry come from?" he asked.

Smith said he and the chancellors agreed that engineering was the highest academic priority this year.

Bing Chen, an engineering professor who teaches at UNO, said the price of establishing a college in Omaha was small compared to the hundreds of millions of dollars given to Micron in tax incentives.

"It will cost money," he said, in support of the bill. "But it is money well-spent if Nebraska can win the big one next time."

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