

LEARNING BY OSMOSIS



Travis Heying/DN

A student takes a break from studying on the fifth floor of Love Library on Saturday. Students begin their last week of classes today.

Students react to new gun rule

By John Fulwider
Staff Reporter

Some gun-owning UNL students do not approve of the campus gun storage policy passed Saturday by the NU Board of Regents.

"That was the stupidest thing they've ever done," said Brian Coulter, a senior agricultural engineering major and president of the UNL Rifle Club, a target-shooting club at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

The new policy requires students who live on campus to store their guns at the UNL Police Department.

Coulter lives in an apartment now but used to live in the residence halls. He said the gun storage facilities were inadequate and not secure when he

lived on campus.

"They were safer under our bed than in that locker they gave us," he said.

Seth Stoddard, an undeclared freshman, also disagreed with the policy, but for different reasons. Stoddard, who lives on campus, said it was a matter of convenience.

Although he would have no problem storing his guns at the UNL Police Department, Stoddard said, he would rather have the right to store them in his room.

But he doesn't have to worry about the inconvenience. Stoddard stores his guns in his hometown of Wilbur.

Brian Allen, a graduate student in manufacturing systems engineering, said the policy would not have much

effect on those who used a gun for criminal purposes. Criminals don't follow rules and regulations anyway, he said.

"It won't do anything except inconvenience law-abiding gun owners," Allen said.

Even then, the policy may end up affecting few people.

Doug Zatechka, the former university housing director, said the highest number of guns registered and stored on campus during the past two years was 33. The lowest number was four.

Zatechka said he thought students would comply with the policy. The students he has worked with tend to be reasonable and willing to follow regulations, he said.

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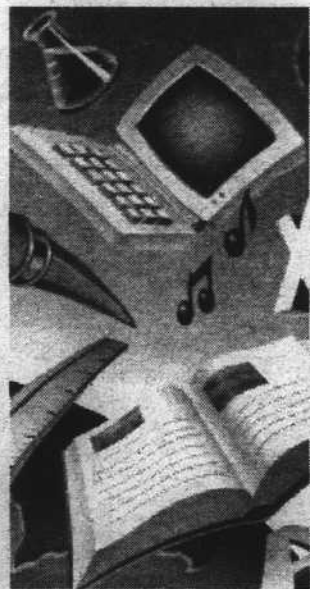
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