

# Daily Nebraskan

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WEDNESDAY



**WEATHER:**

**Today - Partly sunny and mild. West wind 10 to 15 mph.**

**Tonight - Partly cloudy. Low in lower 30s.**

February 7, 1996

## Gambling bill tabled by legislature

By Ted Taylor  
Senior Reporter

The chips are off the table for extended casino gambling in Nebraska — at least for now.

In a 36-9 vote Tuesday, the Nebraska Legislature passed Omaha Sen. Ernie Chambers' bracket motion to postpone debate on LR43CA until June 1.

### Legislature



Chambers' motion effectively eliminates any chance for the constitutional amendment to appear on the November ballot.

Chambers said he decided to introduce the motion after prolonged discussion made it clear there wouldn't be enough votes to enact the resolution.

"My job was to be the captain of the ship that sunk the Bismarck," he said Tuesday afternoon.

"I didn't want to see the expansion of what I call stupid gambling — casinos, horse racing and lotteries," he said, "where the chances of winning are very slight."

Sen. Don Wesely of Lincoln called the lopsided vote "amazing."

"What it tells you is that there are 20 to 30 votes strongly against it," he said.

But he said he wouldn't be surprised if the issue came back to the floor.

"My interpretation of the vote is that it's dead, buried and has a stake through its heart — but it's like Dracula, it might come back again."

Sen. Dave Landis of Lincoln agreed.

"This is like herpes — this will be back."

The extended gambling issue has been on the hot seat since Sen. Stan Schellpeper of Stanton introduced the measure.

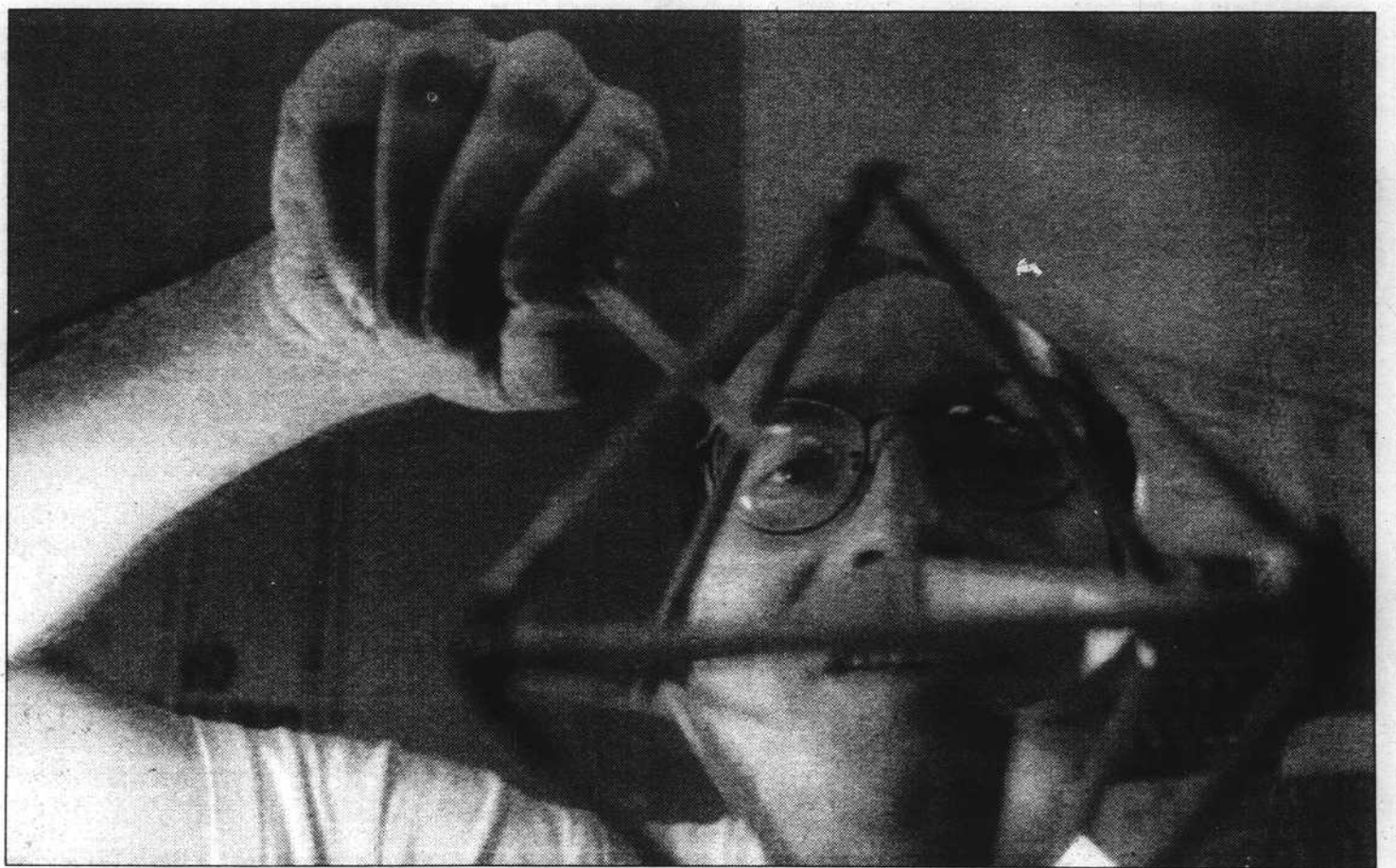
The resolution would have given Nebraska lawmakers the power to allow for electronic, video or mechanical gambling devices.

Schellpeper said he was surprised by the margin of defeat because he believed extended gambling had more support.

In introducing the resolution, Schellpeper said the bill was important enough for all Nebraskans to be given the ability to decide the fate of gambling in the state.

Sen. Eric Will of Omaha, one proponent of the resolution, agreed.

See **GAMBLING** on 6



Matt Miller/DN

Graduate physics student Richard A. Thomas displays his experiment on how bubbles are shaped at the ScienceWorks presentation at Brace Lab Tuesday night.

## Everyday science

### UNL group aims to make subject fun

By Brian Priesman  
Staff Reporter

Bill Nye the Science Guy aside, most scientists are not geeks.

Or at least that's what Diandra Leslie-Pelecky, UNL research assistant professor of physics, hopes to prove with ScienceWorks.

"You don't see scientists bungee-jumping off of bridges screaming 'SCIENCE!' at the top of their lungs," Pelecky said.

ScienceWorks, a UNL outreach group that receives funding from the National Science Foundation, is designed to take science to the people.

The group, which meets once a month, designs portable presentations and skits to show people that science is something fun and useful.

"People have that perception that 'science isn't something I can do,'" Pelecky said.

But ScienceWorks wants to prove them wrong.

A windshear-microburst display teaches about weather conditions that can cause plane crashes.

Another demonstration—a magnet floating above a super-conductor—teaches how to make a frictionless bearing.

And yet another demonstration teaches about weight dispersion on small objects by having a person lie down on a bed of nails.

Future presentations include tornado demonstration and a demonstration answering the question 'why is the sky blue?'

Pelecky said she hoped the projects would help people understand how science affected their daily lives.

"The average person doesn't get much science literacy," Pelecky said.

Pelecky said ScienceWorks had at least one request a week to give presentations. The next presentation will be Feb. 24 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at Gateway Mall, 6100 O St.

## Greek initiations change since state law passed

By Emily Wray  
Staff Reporter

Two years after Nebraska's anti-hazing law was passed, greek initiation is no longer at the forefront of the Legislature.

But it may be foremost in the minds of new sorority and fraternity members.

Most greek houses at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln initiate new members in the spring semester. And the president of UNL's Interfraternity Council said initiation had changed since the passage of LB1129.

"Initiation is a more positive experience now because the law makes people more aware of the morality issues involved and what is considered acceptable behavior," Chris Maul said.

Laura Hohl, president of the Panhellenic Association, said the law hadn't affected sororities' pro-

*"Becoming initiated is a step in leading the chapter, alumni and establishing a proving ground for the rest of life."*

**CHRIS MAUL**

Interfraternity Council  
president

cedures.

"Hazing isn't a part of sorority initiation," she said. "Initiation is more emotional and spiritual."

The law that makes hazing illegal defines it as "any activity which willfully or recklessly endangers

See **INITIATION** on 3

## Moeser causes reshuffling

By Erin Schulte  
Staff Reporter

The arrival of Chancellor James Moeser at UNL has left some administrators playing musical chairs as they return to their former positions.

Joan Leitzel, who served as interim chancellor, returned to her position as senior vice chancellor for academic affairs on Monday.

While Leitzel was interim chancellor, Harvey Perlman, dean of the Law College, filled her spot as vice chancellor. Perlman returned to his original office Monday.

"I am content and happy to be back at the Law College to deal with issues I fully understand," he said.

The pace of the chancellor's office was very intense, he said, but the experience gave him a broader view of university administration.

The dean's position Perlman left

open at the Law College had been filled by law professor Robert Denicola.

The transition back to professor was an easy one, Denicola said, because he had been able to teach half his classes during his time as interim dean.

"So far, I just moved a few boxes of books back to my office," he said.

Denicola said coordinating decisions with Perlman had been easy because both were still on campus, and Perlman was aware of college happenings during his time as vice chancellor.

Also thrown into the administration mix this semester is Melvin Jones, the new vice chancellor for business and finance who took over Monday.

Before Jones was hired, Paul Carlson served for 13 months as the interim vice chancellor.

He moved back to his job as associate vice chancellor for business and finance.

Carlson said he had one major gripe about changing jobs. "My office is too small now," he said jokingly.

Because Jones is new on campus, Carlson said he had spent time briefing him on university business.

"It's going to be a while before he's familiar with the changes and idiosyncrasies here," Carlson said. "He and I are going to work very well together."

So in this game of musical chairs, is someone left without a chair?

With the rest of the administrators settling into their old jobs, Cindy Morris, who was working as assistant to the vice chancellor of business and finance, is not sure of her position.

Morris was hired in July as a temporary assistant, she said. She said she was aware at the time that her job would be tentative after a vice chancellor was hired.

She said she did not have any concrete plans if she was not needed at the vice chancellor's office.