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THURSDAY



WEATHER:

Today - Mostly sunny & warmer. South wind 5 to 15 mph.

Tonight - Partly cloudy. Low 15 to 25.

February 29, 1996



Min-Jung Kim, an exchange student, and Yeaji Shin, a graduate student in English, answer questions from Sharon Harris, a UNL associate professor of English, at the Korean booth of the International Bazaar Wednesday afternoon. The yearly event continues today in the the Nebraska Union.

Scott Bruhn/DN

Senators hear testimony on gay marriages

By Ted Taylor
Senior Reporter

Kristen Job said she had something in common with most of the people in a legislative hearing room Wednesday.

The 21-year old is involved in a long term, committed and loving relationship, she said.

"However, there is one simple difference between myself and the committee I am addressing today," said Job, who is a lesbian. "You are allowed to legally marry your partner — the person that you love. I am denied that right."

Job was speaking in favor of Omaha Sen. Ernie Chambers' bill (LB1260) that would allow same-sex marriages to be legally recognized in the state of Nebraska.

"It would declare explicitly that a marriage is not void because the two members who are part of the marriage are the same sex," Chambers said.

Chambers introduced his bill in front of the Judiciary Committee and a packed hearing room.

In his opening remarks, Chambers told the committee that in the weeks leading up to the hearing, he had received a number of phone calls from religious activists.

Calls, he said, that contained racial slurs and despicable, hateful language.

Those callers, he said, were "trying, I imagine, to change my mind about pursuing this course by being as insulting, as demeaning, as degrading as they can be."

"There are issues of such importance that are not going to go away, and shouldn't be swept underneath the rug," he said.

"And as long as I am in the Legislature, Nebraska is going to be brought face-to-face with the issues, and they will be discussed."

Nebraska would be the only state in the union to legally recognize same-sex marriages if the proposed legislation was passed.

Hawaii is currently awaiting a possible August court order that could approve same-sex marriages; while in the Colorado House of Representatives Wednesday, legislators approved a bill to ban same-sex marriages. It now goes to that state's senate.

By law, marriages performed in one state are recognized in all others.

Legislature '96



Scrumptious Bazaar brings exotic tastes, cultures

From Staff Reports

The Nebraska Union was filled Wednesday with the sights, sounds and smells of more than 20 countries during the first day of this year's International Bazaar.

For more than 10 years, the International Bazaar has brought tastes from all over the world to students of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Bill Udell, a junior biology major who was attending the bazaar for the first time, sampled dishes from Greece and India. And he returned for a second taste of India.

"It's very tasty. I'm impressed," Udell said.

Twenty-five distinct cuisines were available, representing Indonesia, Mexico, Malaysia, Turkey, Japan, Bangladesh, Romania, Africa, India, China, Slovakia, Venezuela, Costa Rica, Chile, Spain, Thailand, New Zealand, Australia, Greece and Bosnia. Native American, Puerto Rican and New Mexican food was also available.

The Turkish booth, like most, featured not only food, but other samples of Turkish culture. Pictures of Turkey hung from the wall behind the booth, and a VCR next to it dis-

played Turkish scenes on a big-screen TV. Other booths offered music or crafts from their countries.

Kamil Haliloglu, a Ph.D. agronomy student and president of the Turkish Students Association, said his booth was doing well.

"It gives us the opportunity to show Turkish food to Lincoln's people and the students," Haliloglu said.

M.N. Hassan Shahin, president of the International Students Organization, said the bazaar was a great success.

"It brings people from all over the world together working as a team," Shahin said.

Speaker calls diversity explosive

By Joshua Gillin
Staff Reporter

American cultural diversity is a time bomb, and the clock is ticking. That's the message Phoebe Eng gave to about forty listeners at the Nebraska East Union Wednesday night.

Eng, a media coordinator for DMI Industries, an independent New York publishing firm, has lectured at several universities and conferences across the country in the past few years.

Her lecture Wednesday dealt with America's perception of cultural differences, both in real life and the media.

Eng used the O.J. Simpson trial as an example of the way the media affect opinions.

"I don't care about the facts of the trial," she said. "It doesn't matter whether he was guilty or innocent. What mattered was the fact that it (the

"You have to participate in the media and let people know what you think."

PHOEBE ENG

DMI Industries media coordinator

trial) formed opinions of race that divided America."

Several events in recent years have had effects comparable to the Simpson

trial, she said. Incidents she cited included the Washington, D.C. Million Man March in 1995 and the beating of Rodney King in 1992.

She said in most instances, the way the media presented the situations to the public tended to bring about a negative reaction in the American public.

"Race and discussing race is not a media topic," she said. "Thinking that way is proof of what I call a self-grati-

fyng society, an environment in which the public usually believes what it wants to hear."

Eng, author of "Not About Face,"

said dealing with issues of cultural diversity required an open mind, and the first step to accepting differences was to admit prejudices.

But most importantly, one must be willing to stand up for what he or she believes in.

"You have to participate in the media and let people know what you think," she said, "so you damn well better believe what you say."

Husker marching band awarded Sudler Trophy

By Julie Sobczyk
Senior Reporter

The Cornhusker Marching Band is joining the Nebraska football and volleyball teams and celebrating a national title of its own.

For the first time, the University of Nebraska-Lincoln band has been awarded the Sudler Trophy, an award honoring the top college marching band in the nation.

For Rod Chesnutt, first-year director of the UNL marching band, the award made the year even better.

"This award tells you exactly why I came to work here," Chesnutt said. "The type of students I get to work with are unique. They take pride in everything, and they take care of each other."

The students' commitment is what made the band award-winning, he said.

"This year's band is outstanding," he said. "The students are committed to a quality band. They do their best each time they perform."

Jay Kloecker, UNL director of bands, said the award was a great honor for the 270 students who marched in the band.

"It's given to the college band that has continued excellence and contributes to college marching bands," Kloecker said.

The trophy is awarded based on votes by other college bands, he said.

"It's like the CNN Coaches' Poll," Kloecker said. "NCAA school marching band directors are sent ballots."

About 300 directors vote, and the three finalists are sent to the John Philip Sousa Foundation.

See BAND on 6

See MARRIAGE on 2