

# Playboy signing session attracts UNL fans, no protesters

By KASEY KERBER  
Staff Reporter

More than 150 men stood in line during the first hour of Monday's "Girls of the Big 12" Playboy magazine signing session at Q4Quik, 17th and Vine streets.

While the men lined up for the event, protestors who last semester questioned the magazine's decision to visit the campus were conspicuously absent. The October issue of Playboy features Tami Unger, a University of Nebraska-Lincoln junior elementary education major, along with women from the other 11 Big 12 universities.

The signing session featured Unger and the University of Missouri's Hali Riley informally signing copies of the issue.

While signing, Unger and Riley spoke about their experiences posing for Playboy and about the October issue.

"Actually, when the announcement came out that Playboy would be coming to Lincoln, my boyfriend was the one who motivated me to do it," Unger said.

During Playboy's recruitment visit in late April, a small group of UNL students protested the presence of the magazine and radio talk show host John Baylor devoted his KLIN morning show blasting the magazine.

Yet no protesters were on site Monday, when a line of mostly college men extended from the door to the gas pumps.

"I came because I was curious to see what she looked like," said Jason Varner, a sophomore business admin-

istration major. "I still have the same respect for her."

Many of the other men standing in line refused to comment, saying they feared their girlfriends' wrath.

Unger said she thought the Playboy issue would help her later in life and dismissed last April's protests of the issue.

"People don't give Playboy a chance," Unger said. "It's a beautiful magazine."

When asked what impressions she thought guys would take from her pictorial and the issue itself, Unger said she hoped she and all women would gain respect.

"I hope guys will respect women, know that we're intelligent," Unger said.

Riley agreed.

"I would like guys to see that it's possible to be in school, be intelligent and make a respectable name for themselves," she said.

Unger also commented on two specks of interest within the issue — the fact that she raises "bunnies" and a temporary tattoo she wore in the pictorial.

"I've been raising rabbits since I was five and really didn't think of it at all when I went in for Playboy," Unger said. "Now I guess it's sort of ironic."

The tattoo, a tiny Herbie Husker, was all that she wore in her shoot. She said the Playboy makeup artist had the idea for the tattoo.

Gary Bowers, regional sales manager of Warner Publisher Services, said he expected the issue to be a sell-out.

"It will definitely be a sellout in this area," Bowers said. "The publicity greatly boosts sales."

Elizabeth Norris, director of public relations at Playboy, said the issue would most likely sell out at a national level as well.

"The women in the issue are beautiful and it can't help but to attract sales," Norris said.

Two more signing sessions are scheduled today. The first will be from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Gas 'N Shop, 951 West O St., and the second will be from 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. at Gas 'N Shop, 5560 S. 48th St.

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