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## Eye cue



LANE HICKENBOTTOM/DN

RAY GIBSON, a freshman general studies major, plays a game of pool Wednesday afternoon in the Nebraska Union gameroom.

## Harassment claims follow new professor

By ERIN SCHULTE  
Senior Reporter

A new UNL theater professor left his previous job after allegations of sexual harassment were reported by two female students in 1994.

William Grange came to the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in August as a tenured associate theater professor.

During his time as a tenured professor at Marquette University in Milwaukee he was accused of sexually harassing female students.

Grange is at a conference in Wisconsin, and attempts to reach him this week were unsuccessful. Messages left in Wisconsin for Grange Wednesday afternoon were not returned.

Michael Price, associate dean of the College of Communications at Marquette, said the accusations against Grange were mostly of verbal harassment.

"Language he used was making students uncomfortable," Price said.

But some students who had class with Grange at Marquette said the problem went beyond verbal harassment.

"It was inappropriate behavior," said a 1993 graduate of the Marquette theater program who asked that her name not be printed. The alumna said Grange sometimes told lewd jokes and entered female dressing rooms before students said he could come in.

The university warned Grange, she said. "Dr. Grange did have his hand slapped more than once, and his behavior did improve, but it wasn't great," she said.

Grange supported, showed interest in and helped his students search for graduate schools, she said, but his problem was that he didn't understand the boundaries of a professor-student relationship.

Please see **GRANGE** on 6

## Law attracts businesses, lets employers fire at will

By PETER MARHOEFER  
Staff Reporter

Before switching to that next job, beware. Nebraska is one of 21 states that honor the Employment at Will Law. This law gives an employer the right to fire an employee for any reason, or no reason at all. As long as the employer doesn't violate a worker's civil rights, a person's job may be here today, gone tomorrow.

"You have no rights as an employee," Ed Wines of the Lincoln Employment Office said, "as long as you get fired based on a business decision and not discrimination."

Nebraska does not give employees a right to appeal dismissals, said Rich Nelson, a labor law specialist for the state of Nebraska. Although the Employment at Will law may put

employees in bad situations, the law actually attracts businesses to Nebraska, Nelson said.

Wines said he agreed. "Employers like the right to control their own work force. It gives them better control over their business," Wines said.

Dan Massara, a UNL senior education major, found out about the law first hand.

Dan turned down several other job offers to take a wait position at Old Chicago, a new restaurant in the Haymarket.

His third day into training, Dan was let go. He said his boss told him, "Let's just cut the ties."

"I couldn't believe they would let me go without ever giving me the chance to wait on a table," he said.

Massara, who had experience as a waiter, said

Please see **FIRE**d on 8

## Men speak against violence, say 'no excuse' for abuse

By ERIN GIBSON  
Staff Reporter

Four women in Lincoln will be beaten today. Too many women have bore the brunt of domestic abuse for too long, and a group of more than 30 men say they will not take it anymore.

"Men Speak Out Against Violence" voiced its opposition to violence against women Wednesday night during a program at Bryan Medical Plaza Conference Center, 1600 S. 48th St.

Topher Hansen, a commissioner with the Lincoln-Lancaster Women's Commission, said the men gathered to take responsibility for male violence against women.

The message "No hitting; No excuses" must be passed down through generations until it becomes the norm, he said.

"We are going to be a hurdle for (domestic violence) to continue," Hansen said. "We hope to be the end."

Lincoln Police Chief Tom Casady said domestic violence was a local problem. Police investigate an average 4.1 domestic assaults in Lincoln per day, he said.

"It's clearly our most significant threat to the health of our people," he said.

A series of 911 calls illustrate the problem:

ing punched and abused.

- A son watches his father punch and spit on his mother.

- A man drops his baby to the ground when confronted for beating his wife earlier that night.

These cases are among several that have occurred in Lincoln since Sunday, Casady said.

Billy Aplin, a senior psychology major at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, said violence against women touches everyone.

"We are spilling the blood of the people we love, and that blood is staining the very fabric of our society," Aplin said.

An abusive father stained Aplin's childhood until he was seven, he said. That year, a man murdered his father during an argument.

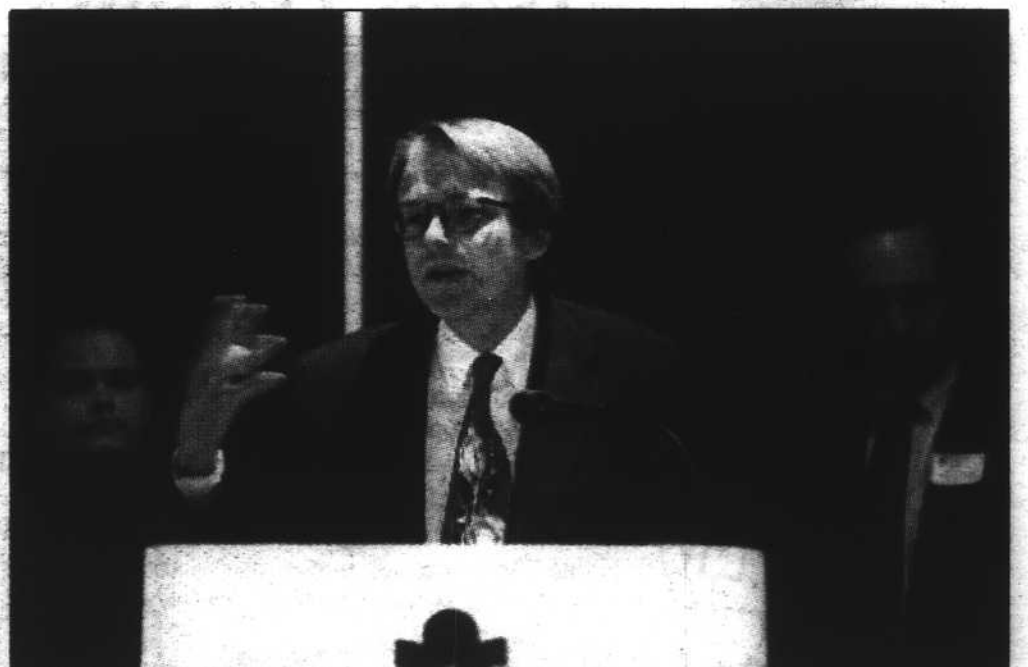
"That was probably the best thing that ever happened to me," Aplin said.

Aplin said he could not imagine his life had he spent an entire childhood with a violent father. But many courageous women have stood the abuse for a long time, he said.

Doug Boyd, a Lincoln resident, said all people pay for such domestic abuse.

Tax dollars cover the medical costs of trauma, rape and physical violence that burden the health care system, he said. Public resources are wasted when schools cannot educate children who are traumatized by abuse at home.

"It is a subtle, evasive sickness that permeates our society."



JAY CALDERON/DN

DOUG BOYD of Lincoln speaks at the "Men Speak Out Against Violence" program Wednesday night at Bryan Medical Plaza Conference Center. To his left are Billy Aplin, a UNL senior psychology major, and area businessman Gary Whiteman. The program addressed ways in which men can help women combat abuse and discrimination.