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Cocaine found in syringes at grocery store

By CHAD LORENZ
Senior Reporter

Cocaine may have been injected into produce and other food items at a Lincoln grocery store Wednesday, a Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department investigation discovered.

Several syringes were found inside Russ's Market at 17th and Washington Streets Wednesday afternoon, according to a health department statement.

The Food and Drug Administration tested a liquid residue in a syringe and found traces of cocaine, the statement said.

The store voluntarily removed all food that may have been injected after the syringes were found. Officials have not determined if any food had been injected with cocaine, according to the statement.

The store will establish a hotline for customers to determine if they need to return any food bought at Russ's.

Vice chancellor search reaches its final stages

By ERIN SCHULTE
Senior Reporter

With the last candidate for the position visiting campus this week, the search for a vice chancellor for academic affairs is in its final stages.

Risa Ileen Palm, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Oregon in Eugene, was on campus Thursday. Two other candidates, Richard Edwards, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Kentucky in Lexington, and Daniel Egan, a psychology and public affairs professor from the University of Maryland at College Park, visited campus earlier this month.

Harvey Perlman, dean of UNL's College of Law, is the other candidate.

Chancellor James Moeser said the four made up an "excellent field of candidates."

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SCOTT BRUHN/DN

JULIE PATTAVINA, an undeclared freshman, signs a get-well banner for Tracy Jensen Thursday night at a benefit concert for Jensen at The Royal-Grove. Pattavina is a member of Jensen's sorority, Tri-Delta.

Jensen's condition upgraded

By CHAD LORENZ
Senior Reporter

The medical condition of a UNL cheerleader who injured her neck during practice last week has improved.

Tracy Jensen, a junior at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, is at Lincoln General Hospital where her condition was upgraded from critical to serious Wednesday, said Phyllis Larsen, UNL director of public relations.

Jensen was hurt while performing a routine tumbling maneuver during Yell Squad practice on Dec. 4. Her family has not released any detailed medical information.

The family has not filed a lawsuit against the university, Larsen said. The university

Please see **JENSEN** on 9

Supporters rally to help injured UNL cheerleader

By CHAD LORENZ
Senior Reporter

Friends, teammates and Tri-Delta sorority sisters of Tracy Jensen gathered together Thursday night at the Royal Grove to show their support for the injured cheerleader.

Jensen, a junior from Lyons, is in serious condition at Lincoln General Hospital after she hurt her neck during cheerleading practice last week. The condition improved from critical Wednesday.

Three bands — Ivory Star, Chronic Bliss and Far From Nowhere — played at the

Royal Grove Thursday night to raise money for Jensen's medical expenses. The Royal Grove and radio station KFRX sponsored the event.

Jensen's supporters wore white ribbons to symbolize hope for the junior member of the Yell Squad and wrote messages to her on a wall-sized poster.

"Hang in there kid and keep your head high and your smile strong. We all love you and you're in our prayers," one note read.

"Get well soon. Can't wait to see your smiling face..."

Please see **BENEFIT** on 9

Fossils suggest coexisting species

Findings hint that *Homo erectus*, *Homo sapiens* lived in same period

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Beetle-browed, humanlike creatures may have been neighbors with anatomically modern humans in Java as recently as 27,000 years ago, researchers say. Their study suggests the primitive species lived on the Pacific island almost a million years after it died out in Africa.

Using new techniques to age-date fossils found on Java, a team of anthropologists concluded that a primitive species known as *Homo erectus* lived in Java between 27,000 to 53,000 years ago.

Carl C. Swisher III of the Berkeley Geochronology Center said this new date indicates that *Homo erectus* lived in Java at the same time that *Homo sapiens*, the modern human,

was also there.

"These are the youngest dates ever found for *Homo erectus* and it is quite startling," said Susan Anton, a University of Florida anthropologist and co-author of the study. "This is the first time that they have been shown to co-exist. Even in Africa, they didn't overlap."

A report on the study will be published Friday in the journal *Science*.

Most experts believe *Homo erectus* arose in Africa about 1.8 million years ago and then spread throughout Asia. Anton said it is widely believed that *Homo sapiens* evolved in Africa, perhaps from *Homo erectus*, about 200,000 years ago and then spread into the rest of the world.

Homo erectus disappeared from Africa and Asia, but Java "was sort of a refuge" for the species, Swisher said.

Java was once connected with Asia by a land bridge, he said, but when the sea level rose, it became an island, trapping and isolating the primitive humans.

Swisher said the *erectus* have never been shown to have developed water transportation. But the more advanced *sapiens* built boats and probably arrived in Java about 40,000 years ago.

This means that *sapien* and *erectus* hominids shared that island for hundreds of generations, said Anton, and suggests that the arrival of modern humans led to the demise of the primitive forms.

"I find it hard to imagine that there wasn't some effect from a new hominid moving in," she said. There's no strong evidence that warfare wiped out

Please see **HUMANS** on 8

Stuffed



SCOTT BRUHN/DN

SAM FULLER, 2, eats a piece of cookie from the hand of his babysitter, Jennifer Griffith, a sophomore music education major, Thursday afternoon in the Westbrook Music Building. Griffith and Fuller were at the Sigma Alpha Iota Wassail Party. Sam Fuller is the son of Craig Fuller, a tuba professor at UNL.