



Caged Bears

The Nebraska women's basketball team beat Baylor 91-73 Wednesday night. The Huskers won for the first time in three outings. **PAGE 10**



Defining 'The Norm'

Michael Jantze, the artist behind the syndicated daily comic strip "The Norm," is celebrating Black History Month in print next week. **PAGE 12**

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WINDS OF CHANGE

Breezy and bleak, high 43. Cloudy tonight, low 25.

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Gay marriage debates heard in committee

By ERIN SCHULTE
Senior Reporter

Legislature

Quotations from the Bible and pleas for equal rights were heard by the Judiciary Committee on Wednesday on two proposed same-sex marriage bills — one to legalize them and one to prohibit them.

"One must be narrow-minded and mean-spirited indeed to try to limit to heterosexual couples the thrill of marriage and the agony of divorce — or vice versa," Sen. Ernie Chambers of Omaha said in support of his bill LB407, which would legalize same-sex marriages.

LB280, proposed by Sen. Jim Jensen of Omaha, would outlaw same-sex marriages in Nebraska, and would not recognize same-sex marriages from other states.

"Marriage is the bond that keeps the family together, and I'm deeply concerned about marriage and the family," Jensen said.

Most who opposed same-sex marriages cited religious reasons and said marriage should be limited to heterosexual couples because of tradition and because only those couples could produce children.

Guyla Mills, executive director of the Nebraska Family Council, said the Legislature should remember senators represented people who believe in the Bible and its teachings against homosexuality.

The committee heard that argument from both sides.

"Why should I pay taxes to a state that refuses to support my issues?" UNL student Jeffrey Krotz, who testified in support of same-sex marriages, asked the committee.

Doug Patton, executive director of the Nebraska Christian Coalition, said same-sex marriages would threaten the marriage institution. But Chambers said just because homosexuals marry does not mean they threaten married heterosexual couples.

"Does what they do in their relationship negatively impact you and your wife?" Chambers asked Patton.

"No," Patton replied.

Others in opposition to same-sex marriages were against the actual sex act.

"The question of sodomy is a question of sensation," said Norman Dority, who testified against same-sex marriage. "The only reason people want it is because they like it."

"Mouth to genitals, genitals to rectum...they bring disease. Please show me that sodomy is good, then I might relax my opposition to (LB)407."

Chambers had said in his introduction of the bill that "if people could pry their minds away from other peoples' crochets, it could be seen that more is involved in this issue than sex."

"Marriage fosters the stabilizing and regularizing of relationships."

Please see **MARRIAGE** on 7

Leading the Way

The black leaders of the Lincoln community

Memorable Work

Author says caregivers need time off the job

Editor's note: In honor of Black History Month, the Daily Nebraskan is profiling prominent black leaders in the Lincoln community. Today is the fourth in a five-part series.

By TASHA E. KELTER
Staff Reporter

Lela Knox Shanks has some advice for caregivers of Alzheimer's patients.

She doesn't call them "patients" or "victims." She prefers to call them "people with Alzheimer's disease."

Shanks has been caring for her husband, Hughes Hannibal Shanks, since he was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease in 1988. Her experience is firsthand.

In hopes of passing on the knowledge she's gained, Shanks

Please see **SHANKS** on 3



MATT MILLER/DN

LELA KNOX SHANKS kisses her husband, **Hughes Shanks** who has Alzheimer's disease. Shanks is the primary caregiver to her husband, and has written a book on the subject.

Visiting Fulbright Scholar addresses security

Speaker says future of Europe unstable

By LINDSAY YOUNG
Staff Reporter

Looking to the future of European security was the focus of a lecture given by a visiting Fulbright Scholar Wednesday.

Maurizio Cremasio of Italy spoke to faculty and students on "The Fate of European Security" in Oldfather Hall.

Cremasio is a visiting professor this semester teaching the political science course "Politics and Policy of European Common Market/European Union."

He has held such positions as the senior scientific adviser for security affairs in Rome, and served as a major general in the Italian air force. Cremasio has also published a number of studies on European security.

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There are more questions than answers right now.”

MAURIZIO CREMASIO
visiting professor

Cremasio presented his ideas on the fate of European security to more than 25 listeners Wednesday. He focused on the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, which will be holding a summit where new candidate countries will be open for nomination to NATO in July.

The security issue for these new countries is unstable, he said.

"There are more questions than answers right now. The situation is so

fluid," he said. "It is still in movement. We will not know the final outcome of many things."

Risks to European security include regional instability, ethnic wars, international terrorism, illegal immigration and international criminal organizations, he said.

Because of the new European re-

Please see **EUROPE** on 7



JAY CALDERON/DN

MAURIZIO CREMASIO speaks to a group of students and faculty Wednesday.