

Daily Nebraskan

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Some felons may not see bars

By ERIN SCHULTE
Senior Reporter

First-time, nonviolent felons could have the opportunity to bypass prison and instead be sentenced to 120 days in a state incarceration work camp. LB882, introduced by Sen. Pat Engel of South Sioux City, would alleviate overcrowding of the state's prison system, he said, adding that prison populations are expected to double in the next 10 years. The program also would promote rehabilitation of offenders both during and after the work camp, he said. The 100-bed facility would most likely be near another correctional facility, such as the penitentiary in Lincoln. Projected costs for the camp, which would open July 1, 1999, would be about \$6.6 million in construction and \$2.6 million in operational costs. Engel described the camp as a form

of probation, and said it would provide judges with a good sentencing option between prison and probation. "We'll get them in, get them out and keep them better citizens," he said.

Sen. Ernie Chambers of Omaha compared the states' spending of money on more imprisonment to a leaky faucet, saying the state was trying to catch all the drips instead of fixing the leak. The Legislature should "turn off the faucet" instead of punishing criminals, he said, by spending money on preventative programs. The Legislature would rather spend \$16,000 on punishment than \$1 on prevention, he said.

He also argued that the state would end up sentencing people to work camp whom it would ordinarily sentence to probation. People eligible for the work camp must be convicted as an adult, be

Legislature

medically and mentally fit to participate, have never been imprisoned for a violent felony and have not demonstrated chronic violent behavior.

Sen. Dwite Pedersen of Elkhorn proposed an amendment that would prohibit the state from sentencing anyone under 18 to the work camp.

Several senators argued the unsuccessful amendment, saying it was a better situation than sending juveniles who were sentenced as adults to the state penitentiary.

Pedersen said juveniles in the penitentiary are kept separate from adults until they are 16, and the penitentiary is a more controlled environment than the minimum-security environment of a work camp.

The bill is scheduled for a second day of first-round debate today.

Law & Order

A look at crime on campus and in the community

ROBBERY

A man with a note that said he had a gun and wanted money robbed the Red D Cash on North 11th Street Tuesday morning.

Lincoln Police Sgt. Ann Heermann said the man entered the check-cashing office at 2601 N. 11th St. at 9 a.m. He handed the teller the note, and the teller gave him an undisclosed amount of cash. The man left the store out the

front door and walked westbound.

Heermann said the man was described as a white male, 20 to 25 years old, standing 5-feet, 10-inches to 6-feet tall, with short, light-colored hair and weighing 200 to 220 pounds. He was wearing tan dress shorts, a dark, long-sleeved pullover shirt, a light-colored baseball cap, dark, oval-shaped sunglasses and black, high-top tennis shoes.

BUZZ ON THE FUZZ: RADAR WATCH

Lincoln police radar units will be in the area of Capitol Beach Boulevard and West P Street, and on 27th Street, O to Superior Street today.

On Friday, radar units will be in the area of 20th and Fairfield streets.

Officer, former student settle out of court

From Staff Reports

A former UNL student and the University of Nebraska-Lincoln police officer he is convicted of shooting in 1994 have agreed to an out-of-court settlement.

Gerald Schlondorf, serving 20 to 56 years in prison for the shooting, and Robert Soflin, now with the Lancaster County Sheriff's department, have agreed to a \$135,000 settlement in a civil suit that was to go to trial in Lancaster County Dis-

trict Court next week.

Schlondorf — who pleaded not guilty by reason of insanity — was convicted in December 1995 by a jury on seven of nine felony counts, including attempted second-degree murder, first-degree assault, making terroristic threats, fleeing to avoid arrest and three counts of use of a weapon to commit a felony.

Schlondorf led police on a low-speed chase through central Lincoln. Schlondorf got out of his car and shot Soflin near the intersection of 16th

and R streets with a Thompson replica .45 caliber semi-automatic rifle.

Soflin was hit in the hand, and had to undergo reconstructive surgery and months of physical therapy to repair the damage.

The agreement, signed March 28, states that Schlondorf will pay Soflin and his attorney, Bernard J. Glaser Jr., \$135,000 out of Schlondorf's bank account in his hometown of Clarks. The account has been frozen by the courts in the town. The balance of the account, \$29,176.02, will go to Schlondorf and his attorney.

Marintzer faces DWI charges; says mistake is inexcusable

MARINTZER from page 1

Judge Laurie Yardley that when Worley let Marintzer leave the scene of a potential crime scene — and let a potentially intoxicated driver on the road — he erred. Stall said the officer should have interviewed Marintzer before he drove away.

"This is not a proper stop in a due process, public policy sort of way," Stall said.

Deputy County Attorney Connor Reuter said she was aghast at the defense claims, and asked the judge rhetorically that if case law won't allow officers to approach suspects before the crime is committed, when should they interview them?

"That officer was under no duty

to stop him there," Reuter said.

A decision on the motions to suppress is expected in a week.

Marintzer said earlier in his last day as ASUN president that the charge has been a weight on his mind during his term in office. Marintzer ended his term of office Wednesday night when he administered the oath of office to incoming ASUN President Curt Ruwe.

Marintzer said his position did not make dealing with the charge easier.

"In a position like this, you are held to a higher standard," he said. "I think I have done a lot to uphold that standard."

But, Marintzer said, he is human and makes mistakes. And his mistakes have forced him to ask

himself what kind of an example he is showing, he said, especially throughout the drafting of the Code of Ethics — a brief statement of general ethics Chancellor James Moeser commissioned ASUN to draft.

Marintzer said mistakes he has made throughout his life have given him a better perspective on ethics.

"If I was someone who never makes mistakes then I wouldn't be very qualified to write a code of ethics," Marintzer said. "If you never make a mistake, you never have a reason to look inward and see what's important."

"You don't get to see ... how important those ethics are and how they can help you in life."

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CLARIFICATION

It was unclear which names were changed in Wednesday's *Daily Nebraskan* story about Ann Taylor, the foster mother for AIDS children. Ann Taylor was a pseudonym; the woman's real name was not used.