

## NU Coliseum unraidable

The Nebraska volleyball team defeated the Texas Tech Red Raiders Tuesday night in three straight games. PAGE 7

## Freaky stylin'

Severed dollheads, the macabre and a 1956 Mickey Mantle card rest within the hallowed halls of Lincoln's very own Museum of the Odd. PAGE 9

## QUICK SPORTS

Chance of flurries, high 34. Cloudy tonight, low 22.

# Daily Nebraskan

VOL. 97

COVERING THE UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA-LINCOLN SINCE 1901

NO. 57

## In their honor



SCOTT MCCLURG/DN

WORLD WAR II VETERAN Irl Everett, left, visits with Lou Bernum and Susan Fields after a Veterans Day service held Tuesday evening at the Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, 6001 A St.

## Man critically hurt clearing tree debris

BY ERIN GIBSON  
Senior Reporter

A 21-year-old Kansas man who was helping to cut dangling tree branches in Lincoln suffered severe head injuries Tuesday morning after a 10-foot-long tree limb fell on his head.

Lee Oberle of Shawnee Mission, Kan., was listed in critical condition Tuesday night at Lincoln General Hospital.

According to police, Oberle was working with another employee of Shawnee Mission Tree Service to trim hanging branches on the 200 block of South 29th Street when the limb fell.

Kevin Burkland, spokesman for Rural/Metro Medical Service, said the service received an emergency medical call at 8:51 a.m., and an ambulance arrived five minutes later.

Paramedics found Oberle unconscious and took him to Lincoln General Hospital.

They started intravenous medication on the trip to the hospital, Burkland said.

"That only happens if somebody's pretty hurt," he said.

The ambulance arrived at Lincoln General Trauma Center shortly after 9 a.m. Oberle was soon listed in critical condition.

Oberle was wearing a helmet at the time of the accident, but bystanders reported seeing the helmet lying on the ground in two pieces — apparently cleaved in two by the strong blow of the tree limb, which measured about 7 inches in diameter.

Burkland estimated the branch weighed 100 pounds or more and fell from a height of about 10 feet above Oberle.

Oberle and his fellow worker were contracted by the city of Lincoln to help clear tree debris left over from the record October blizzard that damaged between \$37 million and \$54 million worth of trees statewide, a Lincoln Parks and Recreation Department official said.

Shawnee Mission Tree Service would not comment on how long Oberle had been in Lincoln or whether he had volunteered to help with Lincoln's after-storm cleanup.

## Sunshine or SHAMS

Students must outsmart spring break scams by researching, not being taken in by swindles

BY IEVA AUGSTUMS  
Staff Reporter

From casino gambling in the Bahamas to scuba diving on South Padre Island, or just sipping a mai tai in the Jamaican sunshine, spring break companies are selling themselves to college students all over the nation.

The sales pitch: Have fun in the sun, parties and drinks all for three small payments.

But students beware.

If a deal seems too good to be true, it probably is, local business experts said.

Scott Mecham, president of the Cornhusker Better Business Bureau, said the best way students can avoid being taken advantage of during spring break is to be cautious of companies and aware of marketing tactics.

"When a company says you can

earn a free trip by selling so many trips to your friends, usually there is a catch," Mecham said.

Spring break at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln is March 21-28, and students are now beginning to look at the many options offered by spring break travel companies.

As evidence, bulletin board fliers and newspaper inserts for companies have been scattered throughout campus since October.

"Students need to look past the fliers and classified ads in the newspapers if they want to have a good spring break experience," said Courtney Ellis, a sophomore pre-medicine major, and campus representative for College Tours.

### Sales pitch

College Tours, a nationally

Please see SCAMS on 6

## Forum focuses diversity

Meeting concentrated on campus problems

BY LINDSAY YOUNG  
Staff Reporter

Three university student groups brought Coretta Scott King's Thursday message in Lincoln closer to everyday campus life Tuesday night.

ASUN, the Afrikan People's Union and the Student Impact Team sponsored a diversity forum, which brought about 70 people to the Culture Center for an open discussion on diversity in the campus community.

Viet Hoang, ASUN speaker of the senate, said the groups wanted to bring King's global diversity message down to a scale that would make the university community realize how diversity affects their everyday lives.

Sara Russell, ASUN human rights committee chair, said the forum was planned as a follow-up to King's message.

But, she said, it was also timely with other events such as the controversy surrounding the Academic Senate's decision on the observance of Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday.

"We did not foresee these events, but this was a good media to bring them out," Russell, a junior math major, said. Donny White, APU president and senior psychology major, said the forum was an avenue for people to have their voices heard.

The forum tackled a broad set of issues and consisted of nine panelists, but speech was not restricted to only them.

Audience members looked at what

"We hide behind the topic of diversity and don't look at the problem."

EDDIE BROWN  
panelist

needed to be done to overcome campus problems.

Eddie Brown, panelist and junior business major, said people needed to look at the problems, not just the overall picture.

"We hide behind the topic of diversity and don't look at the problem," Brown said.

Omar Valentine, panelist and junior marketing major, told the audience that everyone needs to step out of his comfort zone and try to meet different people.

However, the climate on campus has not always been helpful in achieving this diversity, audience members said.

Sharia Battle, freshman restaurant and food service management major, said events such as the Sigma Chi Fraternity cross burning last year show that there is a problem on campus that needs to be addressed. Lancaster County sheriff's deputies found the burned remains of a cross last spring after a Sigma Chi initiation ritual.

"The appreciation of diversity has been put on the back burner," an audience member said during the forum.

"It's a scary situation. It needs to be improved big time," another audience

member said.

Audience members agreed that Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday should be observed, but had different views on whether class should be dismissed for the day.

Some panelists and audience members said taking a day off would not be beneficial because the campus possibly will not participate in activities honoring King.

However, some panelists and audience members said it would be a disservice to King if a day was not taken off. Audience members said it would be a day to stop our routine duties and observe his accomplishments.

The forum was one way of honoring him, said Chuck Van Rossum, assistant director of the Office of Multicultural Affairs Minority Assistance Program.

"You ask how you can honor Dr. King. This is one way you have chosen to honor Dr. King," he said.

However, Cynthia Gooch, an audience member and education specialist in the Office of Multicultural Affairs, said it was important to celebrate diversity every day of the year.

"It's not just a day, a week or a month," Gooch said.

### CORRECTION

Because of an editing error, Republican lieutenant governor candidate Kevin Fry's position on abortion was incorrectly stated in Friday's Daily Nebraskan. Fry takes an anti-abortion rights position.