

Teed off

The Nebraska men's and women's golf teams open their spring seasons playing in tournaments this week. PAGE 7

Souled Out

From Sam Cooke and Ray Charles to Maxwell and Erykah Badu, soul music has come a long way. BACK PAGE

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SPRING BREAK PREVIEW

Mostly sunny, high 57. Partly cloudy tonight, low 41.

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UNL suspends Hibler



UNL ENGLISH PROFESSOR David Hibler waits for the media to arrive at his press conference at the county building, 9th and P streets, Monday. MATT MILLER/DN

Professor plans to fight action

BY JESSICA FARGEN
AND BRAD DAVIS
Daily Nebraskan Senior Staff

A tenured English assistant professor under fire for using racial words in an e-mail and who is the target of student lawsuits was suspended Monday.

David Hibler's suspension is pending a hearing by an Academic Senate committee, UNL Chancellor James Moeser said in a statement.

But because university policy requires personnel issues to remain confidential, no one has said exactly why Hibler was suspended.

Hibler was stopped from teaching his 9:30 a.m. English class Monday

when the department Vice Chairman Gerry Brookes, Chairwoman Linda Pratt and several University of Nebraska-Lincoln police officers were waiting for him outside his class.

Brookes said Hibler's three classes will be taken over by tenured professors.

Hibler was told he was suspended

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Parties face off in first debate

BY AMANDA SCHINDLER
Staff Reporter

ASUN Election 1998

Serious discussion as well as laughter echoed in the Nebraska East Union Monday as the VISION and COMMIT parties met for their first debate.

Uniting the campus community was a common theme of the debate, which was moderated by representatives of Mortar Board, Innocents Society and Golden Key.

"The trick is to get (students) together," VISION presidential candidate John Weichmann said. "We need to implement when talk ends and deeds begin."

"It's fine and good to talk, but we need cooperation across the board to make this work."

COMMIT presidential hopeful Sara Russel proposed creating a Campus Coalition to promote university-wide events such as NU Week — a week to promote a common spirit among all students.

She suggested sensitivity and diversity classes targeting faculty and administrators as well as students.

"We need to focus on retention

and recruitment of diverse students," she said. "We need valuable input from all aspects of campus."

Grade inflation was a main issue debated by vice presidential candidates.

"To further complicate (the grading system) is not the main goal," COMMIT nominee Kelly Hoffschneider said. "The answer is academic rigor."

VISION vice presidential candidate Jill Maaske supported examining individual colleges to find problems.

"(Grade inflation) caused turmoil and disgust," she said. "But an A-minus won't make a big difference in the quality of education."

Another common theme was each group stressing to remain true to their respective causes.

"(The election) is a matter of getting the group who will implement what they say," Weichmann said.

Members of the opposing party echoed their sentiments.

"COMMIT is a promise to remain true to those who elected us," Russel said.

Legislators ante up against online bets

BY BRIAN CARLSON
Senior Reporter

Legislature

Amid the sand and spray of tropical paradise, a corps of opportunistic cyber-businessmen have logged onto a potentially booming industry: online gambling via the Internet.

And because online gambling, which operates from places such as the Caribbean, is accessible to anyone with an Internet connection and a credit card, the issue has caught the attention of Nebraska lawmakers.

LB1043, sponsored by Sen. Stan Schellpeper of Stanton, would extend the state's gambling prohibitions to cover Internet gambling.

In a hearing of the Legislature's General Affairs Committee, committee legal counsel Ken Winston said the state's ban on unregulated gambling should be extended to the Internet, where online sites have prospered.

Online gambling providers usually are based in countries with little regulation of Internet gambling or no U.S. extradition treaties, Winston said.

Legislation pending in Congress would outlaw all Internet gambling. But many have questioned whether the government could enforce such a law.

Two testifiers pointed to the difficulties of enforcement and the threats posed to legal gambling.

Loran Schmit, a former state senator, said forms of gambling that are illegal, unlicensed, unregulated and untaxed continue to proliferate, hurting legal gambling such as keno and the state lottery, which provide revenue for state and local governments.

Most efforts to stifle illegal gambling have been ineffective, he said, and regulation of Internet gambling would be even more difficult.

"If we cannot secure the enforcement of fines on illegal gambling machines, how in the name of heaven are we going to supervise my computer?" he said.

Paul Schumacher, president of Lotto Nebraska, said banning Internet gambling would be virtually impossible to enforce because transactions can't be traced over the World Wide Web.

"This is a real complex issue that is going to have to require a lot more study before we can do anything that makes sense," Schumacher said.

The committee took no action on the bill.