

# Griesen: Crime act flawed

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One of the problems with reporting everything is the number of unsubstantiated reports that would be included with legitimate crimes.

Despite these complications, University Police Chief Ken Cauble believes it is important to be open about crime on campus. If people know crime is a problem, they will report it, he said.

"Community response is what helps keep crime down," Cauble said.

But UNL already does many of the things the bill would require.

In the bill are provisions requiring universities to keep accurate crime statistics and make them available to the public.

UNL voluntarily publishes its crime statistics twice a year in a publication every student uses — the schedule of classes, Griesen said.

In addition the UNL Police Department releases the statistics to the Daily Nebraskan annually.

As part of keeping accurate crime statistics, the bill also would require a daily crime log. University Police not only maintain this log, they fax a copy of it to the Daily Nebraskan every day.

But the openness at UNL is the exception, not the rule.

"I have some serious concerns about this bill. It is well-intended, but not well-proposed."

**JAMES GRIESEN**  
vice chancellor for Student Affairs

"We are very unusual. We work with the administration honestly," Cauble said.

Other universities that do not report crime accurately, Cauble said, make for unfair comparisons between universities.

One of the more controversial parts of the bill is a requirement that all campus disciplinary hearings be open to the public.

But open hearings could cripple the hearing process, Griesen said.

Lawmakers argue that disciplinary hearings take the place of the courts, but they do not understand the purpose of the hearings, he said.

Disciplinary hearings operate on a different set of rules and burden of proof, Griesen said. They also address different issues.

"Public hearings would be very dangerous for all involved," Griesen said.

Because disciplinary hearings cannot compel people to testify, it would be nearly impossible to conduct business in an open hearing, he said.

In a hearing guilt does not have to be proven beyond a reasonable doubt. The decision is made based upon a preponderance of evidence.

"People would not understand the difference between courts and hearings," Griesen said.

Open hearings would expose victims to scrutiny, he said.

Disciplinary hearings protect the interests of the educational institution and maintain the environment, Griesen said.

Although the reason for the bill may be sound, its requirements will not decrease crime, he said.

"This is a simplistic solution to a complex problem, and it's just not that simple."

# UNL steps up safety walks

**BY IEVA AUGSTUMS**  
Assignment Reporter

Drowsy pedestrians and tired feet are two things the UNL Parking Advisory Committee is hoping to avoid during Saturday's Spring Safety walk.

Positive and negative feedback from past participants persuaded organizers to change the structure of this year's walk.

"Last year some people said we spent too much time on City Campus," advisory committee President Linda Swoboda said. "By the time we reached East Campus, everyone was tired."

Swoboda said in order to accommodate safety concerns on City and East campuses, two walks will be held this year — one on each campus.

Swoboda said this is the first year the committee, with the help of the Chancellor's Safety Committee and the UNL Police Department, is doing two separate walks at the same time.

"Most students and faculty work and go to class on one campus and not the other," Swoboda said. "It seemed appropriate just to have two separate walks."

Those participating should park in the parking structure, 625 Stadium Drive, and board buses on the south side of the structure at 4 a.m. Buses will go either to City or East campus,

she said.

The walk will last approximately two hours.

Tad McDowell, manager of Parking and Transit Services, said parking services believes the Spring Safety Walk is a productive way to voice safety concerns.

"It helps us identify areas that may need improvement," he said.

McDowell said the Spring Safety Walk started several years ago to look at lighting concerns around campus.

"Today I would have to say the lighting issue is almost problem-free," McDowell said. "But there are still some areas of concern."

Swoboda said the Parking Advisory Committee created a Web form that the University of Nebraska-Lincoln community can fill out to address safety concerns on both City and East campuses.

By using the Web site — [http://www.unl.edu/park/img\\_nofr/park/img\\_sfty.html](http://www.unl.edu/park/img_nofr/park/img_sfty.html) — any safety concerns could be directly submitted to the parking services office, Swoboda said.

"It is important for us to know where the concerns are," McDowell said. "There's no one better to tell us problem areas than the people that utilize the areas."

Swoboda said the Parking Advisory Committee did not feel it was necessary to have a

"I would have to say the lighting issue is almost problem-free."

**TAD MCDOWELL**  
parking services manager

Fall Safety Walk this year, as it has in past years.

"We invited the Chancellor's Safety Committee, the UNL Police Department, and the Association of Students of the University of Nebraska to organize a fall walk if they had any concerns to address," Swoboda said. "However, they decided that a fall walk wasn't needed."

Unless new concerns arise after the 1998 Spring Safety Walk, PAC is planning to keep only the annual spring walk, she said.

Anyone wanting to attend this year's Spring Safety Walk should contact Linda Cowdin, PAC recording secretary, by Thursday, (402) 472-4455.

Although reservations are not required, PAC would like an approximate number of those planning to attend so it can prepare enough transportation.

# Pella Corp. extends externship to UNL

**BY MARISSA CARSTENS**  
Staff Reporter

While many students were spending spring break in the sunny South, UNL graduate student Scott Tafoya worked 14-hour days at a window manufacturer in Iowa.

And he liked it. So much, in fact, he said, "It's too bad I can't do it again."

Tafoya and five other business graduate students from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln spent the week at the Pella Corp. Shennendoah, Iowa, plant.

There the students analyzed production lines and brainstormed ideas for improving production quality at the plant.

Pella organized the week, which is called an "externship" rather than an internship, for university students in 1993. As a result, the new ideas have allowed the company to prevent periodic shutdowns in production.

This year was the first time Pella invited UNL students to participate. University of Iowa students participated earlier in March.

The UNL spring break project began March 23 when students were shown the current working conditions at Pella.

Brainstorming on the project continued throughout the week, and many

students' ideas were put into play, said Mark Michaelis, a UNL graduate student.

For instance, Tafoya suggested the company purchase a \$16,000 machine to automate one step in the window assembly line. Now, the company is seriously considering his suggestion.

Before returning to Lincoln Friday, the students evaluated their ideas and presented their results to Pella.

Carrie Arehart, another UNL graduate student, didn't work at Pella during spring break, but she will start today in the company's personnel and human resources department.

There she will help determine where to put walls in order to create the best workplace environment.

"It is a fascinating concept," Arehart said. "I can learn a lot through it."

Each student project reflects the Kaizen management style — a Japanese form that involves using new ideas to make quick, dynamic changes in a workplace.

The Pella project will continue through April, said Michaelis, who will participate in the externship later this month. A total of eight UNL students will participate this spring.

For some, including Tafoya, the educational value was unprecedented.

"I learned more in one week than I have in two years."

# Semi-trailer, dump truck collide on interstate, 1 dead

From Staff Reports

Police are unsure what caused a fiery truck wreck that killed one and injured two along Interstate 80 Friday morning.

An eastbound dump truck hauling a load of rocks and pulling a trailer veered into the median at about 10:30 a.m., breaking barriers before entering the westbound lanes where it was broadsided by a semi-trailer truck, Nebraska State Patrolman Dave Nelson said.

Both trucks caught fire instantaneously, igniting the cargo of old tires and batteries in the Werner Enterprises semi-trailer.

Richard Grubb, 37, of Englewood, Ohio, was in the sleeper cab of the semi-trailer truck and was killed on impact. The driver, Thomas Noey, 33, of Malakoff, Texas, sustained a broken arm as well as bruises to his heart.

The semi-trailer truck was only two-and-a-half miles from its destination, the Werner Office at Highway

50 and I-80. It was driven from Ohio the day the wreck occurred.

The driver of the rock truck, Jon Hadraba, 45, of Plattesmouth, sustained burns on his head and hands, but was released from the hospital Saturday.

Firefighters had a tough time extinguishing the burning tires as thick, black smoke continued to pour from the trailer well into the afternoon.

Originally police believed the rock truck had blown a tire, causing it to swerve into the median, but Nelson said there is no evidence of that.

It appears the truck's wheel veered off the road and bogged down into the mud, pulling the truck farther into the median, Nelson said. Rain and reduced visibility also may have contributed to the wreck.

The wreck blocked traffic on the interstate near the Millard airport exit through most of Friday.

Both vehicles were considered a total loss. The semi-trailer truck was brand new and had yet to get license plates.

# Mysteries of quasars discussed at international conference

**BY CHAD ELLSWORTH**  
Staff Reporter

Astronomers at an international conference in Lincoln during spring break tried to cut through the mystery surrounding quasars — giant black holes in the center of galaxies.

But a lot of mystery remains, participants said.

A consensus exists among astronomers that quasars are black holes, but no one knows how they work, said Martin Gaskell, associate professor of astronomy at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Gaskell and about 60 of his colleagues from around the world met at the Ramada Hotel and Conference Center Monday through Thursday to discuss many different theories concerning how quasars work.

"There were just the right number of people," Gaskell said. "If we would have had more than a hundred people, we would have had a difficult time sorting through all of the different the-

ories. "If we would have had less, there probably wouldn't have been enough information on which to draw some conclusions."

Although there were a lot of theories put forth, Stephanie Snedden, a graduate student in physics and astronomy, said astronomers must wait and obtain more data before forming any definite ideas.

But some progress was made in solving the quasar question, Gaskell said.

"Some models have been ruled out, but there is not a unanimous consensus on the main problems," he said.

Snedden agreed: "We have a simplified picture of what goes on, but it is still an incomplete one."

The last two quasar conferences were held in Oxfordshire, England, in 1994 and in Shanghai, China, in 1996.

Nebraska was chosen because of its centralized location and its inexpensive accommodations, Gaskell said.

"We feel the conference was very successful."

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Questions? Comments? Ask for the appropriate section editor at (402) 472-2588 or e-mail [dn@unlinfo.unl.edu](mailto:dn@unlinfo.unl.edu).

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