

Academic Senate votes against tax lid

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take a symbolic stance against the lid in their capacity as state employees. So Friends of the Faculty Senate is taking action.

Friends of the Faculty Senate is a lobbying group that becomes active when a pertinent issue arises, Kennedy said.

Through the group, all faculty members were sent a letter asking for

their donations and support in opposing the lid. The group also plans to place an advertisement in the Daily Nebraskan encouraging people to vote in the Nov. 3 election, Kennedy said.

The Association of Students of the University of Nebraska and the NU Board of Regents also have passed resolutions opposing Initiative 413.

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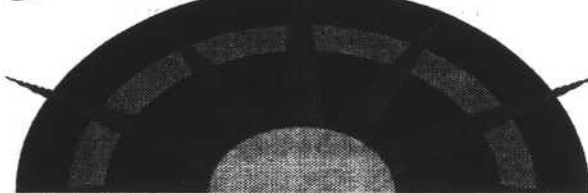
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Officer, 2 students hurt at high school

By JOSH FUNK
Senior staff writer

A lunch-hour fight Monday resulted in a Lincoln High student with a fractured skull, another with a deep cut and a police officer injured.

An argument between three Lincoln High School students escalated when one of them pulled a gun.

The incident started around 11:30 a.m. when two 18-year-old students approached a third student on 22nd Street between E and F streets. They accused the third student of stealing a shirt from one of the other two, Lincoln Police Sgt. Ann Heermann said.

The third student pulled a gun from his backpack and fired several shots at one of the other two, missing him.

The 17-year-old gunman then used the butt of the gun to hit one of the other students over the head, fracturing his skull.

The gunman then hit the other student with the gun, cutting the

back of his head, which required five stitches.

The gunman fled before the first Lincoln police officer, a plain-clothes officer, arrived, Heermann said.

Officer Vadra Stuzman showed her badge and identified herself as a police officer when she approached the two victims.

But when Stuzman grabbed one student's arm, he shoved her away and punched her several times in the chest.

Then the student got into his car, where his friend with the skull fracture already was waiting.

Stuzman reached into the open car door to grab the keys, and the student drove away, dragging her 5 to 10 feet before she fell.

Police caught up with the driver of the car at the hospital where he had taken his friend for treatment.

The driver was lodged in the juvenile attention center for assaulting Stuzman.

As of Tuesday morning, police had not contacted the student they identified as the gunman.



Construction vehicle stolen

A \$20,000 Bobcat was stolen from a construction site Saturday.

The Bobcat, a small, one-man construction vehicle usually equipped with a front end scoop, was taken from a construction site along Superior Street between Bell Ridge Lane and 24th Street, Lincoln Police Sgt. Ann Heermann said.

Tracks led south on 24th Street. This Bobcat also was equipped with a \$5,500 concrete breaker attachment.

Thieves steal safe with guns

A safe containing two handguns was stolen from a Lincoln home Monday evening.

The thief or thieves pried a window open and then carried the safe out the back door, Heermann said.

The safe contained a .44-caliber Magnum, a .22-caliber revolver and some other items.

Ammunition for both guns was missing as well as an 18-pack of Busch beer from the refrigerator.

Compiled by senior staff writer
Josh Funk

Movies in residence halls regulated

By CRYSTIE NICHOLS
Staff writer

If residence hall students plan on watching the epic "Titanic" as a floor activity in their lounge, they need to rethink their plan. A night with Leonardo DiCaprio will have to be him starring in "The Man in the Iron Mask."

According to copyright laws, residence hall students, when they assemble in the lounges, can watch only movies that have been previously selected by the Residence Hall Association.

This list consists of 22 movies, which include "Fargo" and "Saturday Night Fever." Those movies have been purchased with a public viewing license so they can be viewed in public venues, such as lounges in residence halls.

RHA and student assistants choose the movies. Movies are selected each semester to provide up-to-date movies for the residents.

"This makes it inconvenient to get a group of people together," said Drew Williams, a student assistant in Abel Residence Hall.

Scott Kohler, a president on Abel 2, agrees.

"There is not a whole lot we can do about it. ... We have more restrictions than we should have. Personally, I think the students should have more say in choosing (the movies)."

Students in the residence halls often rent movies not on the list and informally watch them in the lounge.

But residence hall staff has cracked down on events in which non-licensed

movies would be shown.

Not all students understand why it exists. Some believe it is to keep them from watching inappropriate movies in the lounges and the university is dictating what students can watch.

The Motion Picture Association of America defines a public performance as one in which a group larger than a reasonable circle of family or friends watches a movie outside the home.

According to the Federal Copyright Act, neither the rental nor the purchase of a videocassette gives the buyer the right to show the tape outside of the home.

That includes non-classroom use at schools and universities, where a public performance license must be obtained.

Terry Savage, a Paramount Pictures assistant film clip licensor, said Paramount owns the rights to its films and merchandise, and one of the company's concerns is its image and products.

"In certain cases, for example showing a movie at a slumber party, there is no obligation to become involved in the licensing process," he said.

"We cannot really differentiate between a slumber party and a group of students watching a movie in a lounge. As long as there is no cost to see the movie and there's no commercializing, we don't care."

Movie studios handle their own licensing for movie theaters but hire licensing firms to handle their home video licensing.

The three major firms are Films Inc., Swank Motion Pictures and Motion Picture Licensing Corp. Swank handles the licensing for most universi-

ties, including UNL.

"Different people at different studios are going to say different things about the copyright laws," said Tiffany Ellis, a licensing representative for Swank. "But that is the law. It is a very specific market."

"The law provides a pretty generic definition for copyrights, although Disney is the most strict in regards to colleges and public viewing in general," said Scott Kereby, a licensing representative for Kit Parker films, a sub-distributor for Films Inc.

"However," he said, "it usually depends on what kind of showing it is." To obtain a movie license from those companies, housing administrators must explain the movies they want licenses for and how often the shows will be viewed.

The cost is determined by how many times a movie will be viewed, how large the audience is and which movie company owns the rights.

Bob Stine, coordinator for the residence hall administration, said the budget for the movies is \$6,000.

Each license, which includes the actual videocassette, costs about \$140.

But if the movie is from a company associated with Disney, such as Touchstone Pictures, it is usually more expensive than if it were from another movie company.

The Department of Housing rents the 22 movies on the list for free only to student residents.

Residents can rent two movies at a time for one night and can pick them up in 1102 Seaton Hall.

Writing center deals with funding cuts

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increase it," Ahl said.

"We are looking into other universities to do some comparisons."

Ahl said the staff then will present the comparison information to department administrators.

Guohua Xia, a graduate student in family science, said he visits the center frequently and was disappointed by the decrease in hours.

Though he has used the center for the past two years, it's now much more difficult for him to set an appointment, he said.

"It seems that the university pays more attention to some surface things; not to the center of education," said Xia, who is from China.

Xia said he uses the center to

Writing Center hours for Fall 1998

- Tuesday 10:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.,
6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
- Wednesday 12:30 - 2:30 p.m.
- Thursday 10:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
- Friday 11:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

The Writing Center is in 129 Andrews Hall. Call 472-8803 for information.

improve his writing skills and also to improve his pronunciation.

"I really appreciate this resource," he said. "It's very helpful."

Sandy Yannone, a doctoral student in English who also uses the center, agreed with Xia.

"The center has always been a creative space for me," said Yannone, who was an associate coordinator for the writing center three years ago.

"It's also been a place to meet other people who are interested in writing."