

Rutgers student dies from fall after drinking

Daily Targum
Rutgers University

New Brunswick, N.J. (U-Wire) — A 20-year-old university student was pronounced clinically dead Sunday from head injuries sustained after a Thursday night fall down the basement stairs of his fraternity house.

College of Engineering junior Jason Greco, a resident of Theta Chi Fraternity, and several friends are believed to have spent Thursday evening at the Olde Queens Tavern on Easton Avenue, where he was served

alcohol.

Greco was kept on life support Sunday at Robert Wood Johnson University Medical Center to keep his organs viable for donation.

Middlesex County Prosecutor Glenn Berman said Greco is believed to have had beer and may have had other alcoholic beverages at the tavern. He said there is no evidence Greco had taken any other intoxicating substances.

Leslie Fehrenbach, associate vice president for administration and public safety, said it was not yet clear how

Greco — who is under the legal drinking age — obtained alcohol at the tavern, but she said Greco was not known to have been carrying false identification.

Representatives from the tavern refused to comment about the incident.

Fehrenbach said the hospital would not release specific details about the death or Greco's blood alcohol level, but she said the death was most likely because of severe trauma to the head.

"The family has requested that their privacy be respected," she said.

She said the death is not suspected to have been because of suicide or foul

play.

"There is no evidence ... that this was anything but an accident," she said.

Fehrenbach said Greco's death illustrates the need for comprehensive alcohol education.

"Jason's death was a tragic accident, and it's essential that Rutgers involve as many people as possible in our alcohol education programs so that we can do everything in our power to make sure that this type of tragedy does not happen again," she said.

In January, University President Francis L. Lawrence formed a commit-

tee charged with the task of changing the culture of college drinking at Rutgers. That committee is expected to report its analysis of current alcohol education programs and make recommendations for improvements by Nov. 15.

"The issue of hazardous drinking has been a concern for college presidents nationally, and it's one for which we as a nation do not have a perfect solution," Fehrenbach said. "Jason's mother said that she hopes young people will learn from this tragedy, and we hope they will too."

Hoppner speaks at youth rally

■ The candidate focused on leadership and education at the student-sponsored event in the union.

BY TODD ANDERSON
Senior staff writer

With less than three weeks left before November's gubernatorial election, Democratic candidate Bill Hoppner enlisted the help of a new student organization Monday night.

Students for Hoppner, a statewide conglomeration of more than 100 high school and university student groups, kicked off its first rally Monday night in front of more than 150 people in the Centennial Ballroom in the Nebraska Union.

Rick Grady, University of Nebraska-Lincoln senior English major, said the group supported Hoppner because of his commitment to excellence in education and leadership.

"The governor's office is not simply about less government," Grady said. "It's about better government."

Hoppner himself spoke at the rally sponsored by UNL Young Democrats, Lincoln High School Young Democrats and Students Against the Lid, a University of Nebraska-Lincoln student group opposed to a proposed

Election '98

constitutional amendment to limit state revenue and spending.

He said he is campaigning to be the state's first 20th century governor for the opportunity to build a better future for Nebraska.

"We need the kind of political leadership that's going to put themselves on the line," Hoppner said.

He criticized his Republican opponent, Lincoln Mayor Mike Johanns, for sacrificing the needs of Nebraskans to the interests of powerful business leaders in initially supporting Initiative 413 and then reiterating his opposition to the proposed lid.

"I'm not going to let that thing pass unless it's over my dead political body," he said.

He also said Johanns failed to propose a plan to help out state farmers and ranchers.

"When (they) needed a leader to stand with them, I was there, and Mike Johanns took a walk," Hoppner said.

Hoppner promised to make affordable, quality education a priority if elected governor.

He said Nebraskans must make sure future generations have the means to acquire the skills they need to grow and prosper.

Hoppner also said he would make

sure Nebraskans from all groups were involved in state decision-making at every level.

"We need to ask ourselves what issues are out there in society," Hoppner said.

"Then we want to come together as a society to decide what to do about it."

Aaron Hilligas, a senior political science major, said Hoppner's remarks sounded like usual campaign promises.

But, he said, he supports Hoppner and thought he was sincere about support for Nebraska's farm and ranch families.

Sophomore political science majors Tom Green and Scott Lindberg said Hoppner's critiques of Johanns were not negative campaigning because he wasn't attacking his opponent's personal life.


Green said he had been skeptical about some of Hoppner's promises during the primary election.

But after hearing him speak twice, Green said he felt more confident about Hoppner's leadership capabilities.

Lindberg said he will vote for Hoppner in November because the candidate understands the situation of all Nebraskans.

"(Hoppner) truly hopes and feels about all Nebraskans and not just the few."

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歌 ka = song
舞 bu = dance
伎 ki = skill

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