

ASUN

ASUN creates committee for Cockson scholarship

By **KIM SWEET**
Staff writer

After months of fund-raising to establish a scholarship in the memory of a UNL student killed by a drunken driver, ASUN passed a bill Wednesday night to establish a permanent committee to award it.

Association of Students of the University of Nebraska President Sara Russell presented a bill to create a permanent steering committee that will select recipients of the Laura Cockson Memorial Scholarship.

Cockson was killed last March when a drunken driver crashed into her car.

The steering committee will include a variety of representatives. Among them will be any family member of Cockson who desires to be on the committee; a representative from Gamma Phi Beta Sorority, to which Cockson belonged; an ASUN representative and a Student Foundation representative.

Also on the committee will be the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Drug and Alcohol Education Coordinator, Linda Major, who will serve as an adviser.

The bill requires that future ASUN presidents appoint members to the Laura Cockson Memorial Steering Committee each year.

Russell said the bylaw, which will outlast her term as president, was important to continue the efforts she and the current ASUN senate have put

forth to establish the scholarship. Fund-raisers have taken place during the last year to raise the \$15,000 needed to give out \$500 scholarships to UNL students who promote alcohol awareness and responsible drinking.

Donations from the Cockson family, ASUN, greek houses, downtown bars and businesses and other organizations have built the fund.

Russell said she hoped ASUN would continue to add money to the scholarship, making it larger.

The more money the scholarship is worth, the more of an impact it will have, she said.

"The more money you get to a cause, the more weight it will have," Russell said. "There will be more emphasis and recognition on how important alcohol awareness is if there is more money."

Applications for the scholarship are due Feb. 26 and are available at the ASUN office, 115 Nebraska Union. All students who have taken efforts to increase alcohol awareness on campus are eligible to apply for the scholarship.

Seniors can apply for the scholarship and receive it retroactively, Russell said.

In other news, Russell said ASUN would start considering dates for the 1999 NU migration football game.

Game dates and location possibilities include Sept. 4 against Iowa, Sept. 25 against Missouri, Oct. 30 against Kansas or Nov. 26 against Colorado.

Russell said students interested in giving input on the migration game can e-mail ASUN at asun1@unl.edu.

New party wants to focus on students

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she said.

Focus members said other concerns included minimizing already high student fees and costs and diversity and sensitivity issues on campus. "We are talking about focusing on real student issues here," Schreier said.

ASUN senators recently voted to place an amendment on the March 3 ballot that would change the composition of the senate. The amendment would provide five at-large seats to groups that historically have been underrepresented.

Schreier said Focus opposed the proposed constitutional amendment. "The amendment does nothing it claims to," Schreier said. "The truth is, minority students will not be guaranteed these seats. Anyone can file for, run for and be elected to these seats."

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To win one of these seats, you must be one of the top five vote-getters on this entire campus," he said.

Schreier promised Focus would instead create a diverse student group that would directly introduce legislation to the senate.

"This would give these underrepresented students a chance to have their views heard immediately and with impact," he said.

Students will vote on whether to pass the constitutional amendment March 3.

Schreier said the Focus party was committed to bring about tangible, real results by the end of its term.

"We know there are a lot of voices out there," he said. "But Focus stands for what they are actually saying."

"We want to keep the focus where it belongs - the students."



Robber chased by victim

A robbery victim chased down his assailant Tuesday evening and led police to the man.

The victim, a 28-year-old man, had just finished pumping gasoline at T's Stop & Shop, 1307 N. 27th St., and was on his way to pay when the robber snatched \$100 cash out of the victim's hands, Lincoln Police Sgt. Terry Sherrill said.

The robber ran south with his victim close behind.

The man caught up with the robber in an alley between 26th, 27th, Orchard and Dudley streets where they wrestled, but the robber got away again.

The man followed him at a distance to a house on the 2900 block of Apple Street where the robber went inside, and the man then called police.

After interviewing the three people in the house, police found out the robber had stopped in, grabbed his coat and left.

The people in the house told police the robber was out of breath and sweaty when he stopped in.

Police went to the suspect's apartment on the 1500 block of South 22nd Street and arrested the 23-year-old man for robbery.

Student cited for drug use

University Police cited a student for drug use Monday, even though she said her religion promoted it.

Police were called to the 5000 building of Selleck Quadrangle after someone smelled burning marijuana in the hall, Sgt. Mylo Bushing said.

The officer traced the smell to one room and contacted the 19-year-old woman inside.

She admitted smoking the drug and gave police a small plastic bag of marijuana and a stone and brass pipe.

She was cited for possession of marijuana and drug paraphernalia.

Compiled by senior staff writer Josh Funk

Washington aide rehired after hasty resignation

WASHINGTON (AP) - The mayor of the nation's capital is rehiring an aide who resigned because some people were offended when he used the word "niggardly" to describe how he managed his office's funds.

D.C. Mayor Anthony Williams was criticized by city officials for accepting David Howard's resignation over the use of the word, which means stingy and has no racial connotation.

On Wednesday, Williams urged Howard to return to his job as director of the mayor's Office of the Public Advocate. Howard agreed to go back to work but asked for a new posting.

Howard said he also was too quick to offer his resignation Jan. 26. "At that time, I thought it was the best

thing for the city and the administration," he said.

He resigned because rumors were spreading that he used a racial epithet in a Jan. 15 conversation with members of his staff, and he said those rumors had compromised his ability to be an effective public advocate.

Both the mayor, who is black, and Howard, who is white, said the word Howard used, when describing how he managed a fund, was "niggardly."

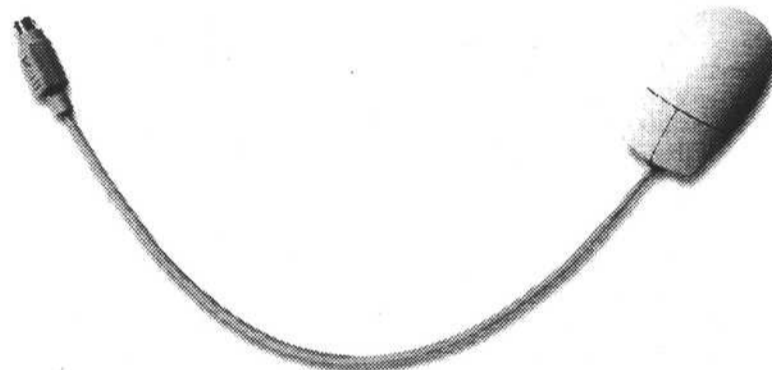
Howard said he immediately apologized for any misunderstanding.

"I understand, full well, how some African Americans and whites might be incensed by my use of such an arcane word. And I sincerely apologize for offending anyone. It is certainly not my intention," he said.

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