



Flown away

The winning streak for the Nebraska men's basketball did just that, but the Huskers look to regain the magic Saturday. **PAGE 7**



Words that heal

Having gone through a troubled childhood himself, Lincoln author Tom Frye now writes stories to help other young people handle growing pains. **PAGE 9**

CLOUDY BUT GOODIE

Mostly cloudy, high 50. Misty tonight, low 30.

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Judge dismisses sex lawsuit as frivolous

By **JOSH FUNK AND SHANE ANTHONY**
Staff writers

A Lancaster County District judge Thursday dismissed a lawsuit dealing with teen-agers, sex and parental responsibility.

"I'm going to be frank with you," Judge Jeffre Chevront said before dismissing the suit. "In more than 25 years as a judge, this is one of the weakest - if not frivolous - cases I've ever been involved in."

Doug Detmer, of Lincoln, sued Dawn

Bixler, also of Lincoln, alleging she was negligent, because she knew her son, Dallas Mills, had sex with his daughter, Leanne. Leanne Detmer became pregnant in early 1997. Her father sued on her behalf for \$11,371 to cover the cost of an abortion and counseling for her.

The case may have been the first of its kind in the United States.

According to court testimony, Mills and Leanne Detmer started dating in the fall of 1996 and became sexually active a few months later.

In April 1997, Leanne Detmer learned that she was pregnant, and her parents made her

have an abortion.

In 1998, Chevront dismissed Mills from the lawsuit, because the two teens had consensual sex 15 to 20 times during the relationship.

After the judge's Thursday ruling, one of Detmer's lawyers, Kirk Wolgamott, said a technical problem prevented attorneys from entering medical bills into evidence.

Doug Detmer filed the lawsuit on behalf of his daughter, Wolgamott said, but he was not listed as a party. Leanne Detmer's bills were in her father's name, he said, making them irrelevant.

He said he did not know what, if anything, would be done, but Doug and Sharon Detmer are upset.

"They still believe that some responsibility should be taken by Dallas Mills," Wolgamott said.

During testimony Thursday morning, Leanne Detmer talked about conflict with her parents and an open attitude at Bixler's home.

"There were no rules, and we could do what we wanted," she said.

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LANE HICKENBOTTOM/DN

AMY MARTIN, a senior art major, said she paints as therapy to combat an eating disorder she acquired when she was in her early teens. An estimated 4 million to 5 million Americans suffer from eating disorders.

Eating disorders present lifetime battle

"I was confused as to what was going on. There came a point where I wanted to stop losing weight, but I just couldn't."

JENNIFER SCHULTE
senior dietetics major

By **SONJA HEGGE**
Staff writer

You're fat. Look at those thighs. You are disgusting.

These are just a few of the thoughts continuously running through the minds of the 4 million to 5 million Americans who suffer from an eating disorder, according to the Eating Disorders awareness and prevention organization brochure.

Laura Schweer, a senior psychology major, knows first-hand what it is like to hear voices inside her head. Schweer has struggled with an eating disorder since the fourth grade.

"I remember running in gym class and the boy behind me uttered 'boom, boom, boom' as my feet hit the pavement," she said. "I wasn't fat, but I

remember thinking if I looked like my petite friend, the boys would like me."

Starting that afternoon, she began to ride her bike along her dad's 3-mile jogging route every day. By fifth grade, Schweer was subjecting herself to a pattern of restrictive eating, keeping mental notes of how many calories she consumed.

"I remember reading in a book that a girl my age should have 2,000 calories per day," Schweer said. "So I told myself I could have 1,000."

In eighth grade she fit comfortably into kid-size clothing. She was pale and remembers passing out several times during class.

Schweer's mother, a registered nurse, reacted to her daughter's weight loss by trying to force her to eat. Schweer then used laxatives to purge herself of

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Justices question purpose of court

By **IEVA AUGSTUMS**
Senior staff writer

Hear ye, hear ye, student court is now in session for no apparent reason.

Anyone who would like to bring business forward to the court, please do so.

Although it has power to hear minor student dispute cases, ASUN Student Court has not ruled on a case in more than four years.

Student justices are concerned and are questioning the court's purpose.

"It's crazy," said Don Arp, an associate justice and a junior history major. "I cannot imagine students not having concerns or issues they would like resolved. Maybe students don't know we exist."

Established in 1965 by the Association of Students of the University of Nebraska, the student court's role and duty is to provide a forum for the student body to contest actions of their peers.

Jurisdiction of the court extends to ASUN impeachment proceedings, constitution interpretation, contested elections and any other matters concerning student and university organizations.

Marlene Beyke, ASUN director of development, said because there have not been any court cases, student court members have had to be creative and think up projects for themselves.

"It would be nice to think everyone is happy and student court's services are not needed," Beyke said.

One project student justices developed was ASUN impeachment proceedings.

ASUN senators approved the impeachment procedure Wednesday.

Chief Justice Craig Strong, a second-year NU College of Law student, and Christina Shields, an associate justice and a biology graduate student, developed the impeachment proceedings.

"We were looking for relevant work, because we knew case loads were not going to be full. So, we decided to create projects for ourselves," Strong said.

Strong said the proceedings could be used to impeach ASUN executives and senators, as well as student court members.

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