



SPORTS

Rivalry game

The Nebraska softball team faces a key game Tuesday when it plays Creighton in a game in Omaha. **PAGE 11**



A & E

A daring play

Playwright Max Sparber has gleaned an award-winning show from the pages of Omaha's darkest history. **PAGE 12**

TUESDAY

March 30, 1999

UNBELIEVABLE

Windy and warm, high 80. Cloudy tonight, low 50.

Daily Nebraskan

VOL. 98

COVERING THE UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA-LINCOLN SINCE 1901

NO. 127

A life upside down



JILL FOSDICK KISSES her daughter, Jaylin, after giving her a bath. Even though her family helps take care of the baby, Fosdick, a student athlete, said she never has any free time. Please see story on page 8.

MATT MILLER/DN

Legislature



Concealed weapons bill tabled

■ **LB476 is damaged**, senators on both sides say, and is temporarily off the agenda.

BY SHANE ANTHONY
AND BRIAN CARLSON
Staff writers

Following a failed vote Monday to cease debate on a bill that would allow Nebraskans to carry concealed weapons, the bill's sponsor and one of its opponents both said the legislation is wounded.

"I would say it's crippled," said Nickerson Sen. Ray Janssen, chief sponsor of LB476. "It's got one wing dragging."

One of the measure's chief detractors, Omaha Sen. Ernie Chambers, went a bit further.

"I think it means the bill is fatally wounded," he said.

The motion for cloture, which would have ceased debate, needed 33 votes to pass. It fell three votes short, 30-16. Under legislative rules, the bill was pulled from the agenda until the speaker, Sen. Doug Kristensen of Minden, puts it back on the agenda.

If that happened, Janssen could not ask for cloture again until two more hours of debate passed.

Janssen said he would ask Kristensen to bring the bill back, but not until he was sure he had the 33 votes necessary to halt debate.

"I don't want to drag this on forever and ever," he said.

Three senators were absent for the vote. Their votes could have given supporters the 33 votes needed for cloture, but Janssen said he was unsure how they would have voted.

During debate Monday morning, Chambers called the bill the worst piece of legislation he had seen in his 29 years at the Legislature.

"I've heard him say that about a lot of legislation," Janssen said in response.

Lincoln Sen. Chris Beutler pointed to a section of the bill dated back to an 1873 law prohibiting concealed weapons. Even then, he said, Nebraskans did not think concealed weapons were a solution to problems.

Citing a number of statistics, Omaha Sen. Shelley Kiel said support for the bill stemmed from a probable increase in gun sales. She said passing the legislation would send the wrong message to young people.

"It sends the message that when you have a gun, you can solve your problems," she said.

But Janssen said the issue would continue to come back to the Legislature if it didn't pass this year.

The bill would require people who wish to carry a concealed weapon to pay a fee, receive training and submit to a background check. It would also ban concealed weapons in certain places.

Gov. Mike Johanns has said he would sign concealed weapons legislation if it reached his desk.

Groups aim to cork bottle club

BY IEVA AUGSTUMS
Senior staff writer

The potential for UNL students to engage in high-risk drinking could increase if one downtown Lincoln business owner is told he doesn't have to obtain a liquor license, university officials said during a mayor's press conference Monday.

Mike Webb, co-owner of Barry's Bar and Grill, 235 N. Ninth St., petitioned the Nebraska Liquor Control Commission on March 3, requesting a declaratory ruling on the term "bottle club," a private membership-only club which neither sells, serves nor dispenses alcohol, but allows its members to consume alcohol.

Assistant City Attorney Joel Pedersen said the petition is requesting the commission to clarify whether a private members-only club, such as a bottle club, would be required to hold a state-issued liquor license.

Even though bottle clubs were present in Lincoln more than 30 years ago, Pedersen said, current city officials and members of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln community have raised concerns regarding Webb's petition.

Webb, however, said he was not proposing the creation of a bottle club or promoting high-risk drinking.

"I have not asked for a license. I'm not asking for a permit. I simply asked a question," he

“*A bottle club of this nature is not in the best interests of our students.*”

ANDY SCHUERMAN
ASUN senator and president-elect

said.

Many university officials said they are concerned about the impact the petition would have, if passed, on the campus' climate and culture.

"A bottle club of this nature is not in the best interests of our students," said ASUN senator and president-elect Andy Schuerman. "While on the surface, it seems like additional entertainment opportunities, but when you look at it, it's inconceivable." The proposed club would specifically target UNL students, the petition states, and allow its members to consume their own alcohol on the premises between the hours of 10 p.m. and 6 a.m., Thursdays through

Please see **BOTTLE CLUB** on 7

City Council



Council ordinance would ban clubs

BY JOSH KNAUB
Staff writer

The Lincoln City Council has proposed an ordinance in response to bar owner Mike Webb's petition to the Nebraska Liquor Control Commission.

The ordinance would amend Lincoln's Municipal Code relating to alcoholic beverages by defining "bottle clubs" and adding a new section to prohibit such clubs within city limits.

Webb, co-owner of Barry's Bar and Grill, 235 N. Ninth St., has asked the commission to rule on whether or not bottle clubs must obtain a liquor license.

The proposed amendment was on first reading at Monday's meeting, meaning that no action was taken.

The council likely will proceed through the ordinary process for proposed ordinances and vote on the measure in three weeks. However, council action could move the vote up a week or push it back indefinitely.