

Olmos speaks on relations, unity

■ The actor addressed the importance of communication among races.

BY VERONICA DAEHN
Staff writer

If you book him, they will come. Actor Edward James Olmos — best known for his stint on the pastel-laden television cop drama "Miami Vice" — nearly filled the Centennial Ballroom in the Nebraska Union on Thursday night.

Students, professors and community members came to see the man they know mostly from the big screen talk about the impotence of racial and ethnic harmony.

Olmos has also starred in the Warner Brothers motion picture "Selena" last year, as well as "Stand and Deliver," which he also directed. "The only thing that makes us the same is that we're all different," Olmos said.

Education is the key to stopping the hate and prejudice that is evident in today's society, he said.

"Race is the issue," he said. "Why? Because we made it the issue."

In a speech filled with humor and personal anecdotes, Olmos analyzed his Chicano background and focused on what American institutions, such as schools, need to do to stop the hate and misunderstanding.

Ninety-three percent of the curriculum children are taught in school is European-American, he said.

"Africans got (to the United States) long before Columbus did," Olmos said. "Try to find that in the history

books."

Education is very important, and the nation's language should not be limited to English only, he said.

"There's never been more hurt to this country than those two words — English only," Olmos said. "Being monolingual is like not knowing how to use a computer."

Olmos said being able to speak more than one language continues to become more important in today's society.

With the Internet gaining popularity, Olmos said, it should be used to communicate with people from across the world.

"Even governments can't stop you from talking to each other on there," he said. "Get on the 'Net and talk."

Olmos emphasized that hate was not innate. It is acquired as people interact with their environment, and it should not be that way, he said.

"We learned how to be racist," he said. "We learned how to be angry at each other. We learned how to be opinionated. We learned how to be stereotypical."

The solution now is education, he said. People need to realize that on average they only use 8 percent of their brain, while the rest sits idle.

"We know nothing about the subconscious mind," he said. "Those of us that are lucky enough to make it past the hatred of white people, hate white people subconsciously."

People are not the same, Olmos said, but an understanding needs to be reached.

"Every single person is different. The only thing that makes you the same is you're a human being. There's only one race and it's the human race."

Law college seeks end to hair-length dilemma

BY IEVA AUGSTUMS
Senior staff writer

NU College of Law administrators and professors plan to tangle themselves again in one student's "hairy issue," in hope of ending a three-month discrimination discrepancy.

University of Nebraska College of Law Dean Nancy Rapoport said third-year NU law student Thayne Glenn's case will be discussed again at today's faculty meeting.

Glenn was told in January he could not participate in the Criminal Clinic offered through Lancaster County Attorney Gary Lacey's office unless he cut a substantial part of his shoulder-length hair.

After being approached by Glenn,

Law Professor John Snowden questioned whether students could be discriminated against based on their appearance.

Snowden, along with four other NU law professors, said he would be presenting a motion at this afternoon's meeting to resolve the issue.

"We are asking the law school to affirm that it honors the non-discrimination policy of the university," Snowden said. "And that policy does include hair."

A faculty meeting was held February 9 to discuss the issue; however, nothing was resolved.

In addition to the college's compliance, Snowden said the motion also requests all programs the college associates itself with to honor the policy.

Clinton holds Milosevic responsible for soldiers

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Clinton said Thursday he holds Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic responsible for the capture of three Army soldiers near the Macedonian-Yugoslav border, warning him to "make no mistake" and release them immediately.

The United States initially branded the capture an illegal abduction on the assumption that Serb forces had crossed into Macedonia. But later Thursday, Pentagon spokesman Kenneth Bacon called them "prisoners of war," raising the specter that the soldiers could be held until the end of hostilities. The Pentagon was investigating the possibility that the soldiers had blundered across the Macedonian border into Yugoslavia.

"We consider them to be POWs," Bacon said. "We assert that they are covered by the Geneva Convention."

Yugoslavia said the soldiers were invaders and would face criminal trial before a military court today. The announcement added a new and unsettling element to an expanding Balkan conflict that the Clinton administration struggled Thursday to explain.

Mixed with images of Kosovar Albanian refugees fleeing from apparent Yugoslav "ethnic cleansing" operations were television pictures apparently from Pristina, the Kosovar provincial capital, showing the three grim-faced American soldiers in captivity, dressed in camouflage, with dirt or abrasions on their faces.

"The United States takes care of

its own," Clinton said to emotional applause from service members gathered in a hangar at Norfolk Naval Base in Virginia. "President Milosevic should make no mistake: We will hold him and his government responsible for their safety and their well-being."

The Pentagon backed away from its initial assertion that the soldiers had not crossed into Yugoslav territory. Army Gen. Henry Shelton, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said that possibility was now being investigated, and he suggested that the three may have inadvertently crossed the border while fleeing from a Serb ambush. But the Clinton administration maintained that the capture of the soldiers was illegal.

"There was absolutely no basis for them to be taken," Clinton said. "There is no basis for them to be held. There is certainly no basis for them to be tried."

Yugoslav Deputy Prime Minister Vuk Draskovic, a moderate in the Yugoslav government, told The Associated Press that the soldiers, who were caught Wednesday, would be treated "with the full respect of all international conventions concerning prisoners of war."

The Pentagon identified the three as Staff Sgt. Andrew A. Ramirez, 24, of Los Angeles; Staff Sgt. Christopher J. Stone, 25, of Smiths Creek, Mich.; and Spc. Steven M. Gonzales, 21, of Huntsville, Texas. The men had been on a routine reconnaissance mission in the Kumanov area of northern Macedonia, about three miles from

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PRESIDENT CLINTON

the southern Yugoslav border, when they radioed frantically at about 3 p.m. (8 a.m. EST) that they were taking small arms fire and then that they were surrounded. Nothing further was heard from the patrol. The Pentagon kept the situation secret until Wednesday evening after U.S. search-and-rescue helicopter teams had failed to find the soldiers.

Draskovic said the wounds clearly visible on one soldier resulted from his "trying to fight physically before being arrested." But U.S. officials voiced concern.

"We're very concerned about the safety and welfare of the three soldiers who were abducted by Serb forces," U.S. Army Gen. Wesley Clark, the NATO commander, said at a news conference in Brussels, Belgium. "We don't like it. We don't like the way they're treated, and we have a long memory about these kinds of things."

RHA names election winners

BY BERNARD VOGELSANG
Staff writer

RHA

RHA Election Commissioner Kristy Jacobberger said Thursday all candidates who successfully ran in Wednesday's election accepted their senate positions.

Jacobberger said nine of the 30 seats in the Residence Hall Association Senate will remain unfilled because write-in candidates didn't receive the electoral threshold of five votes to fill these spots.

Residence halls who have senator positions open are Abel, Cather, Sandoz, Schramm and Smith.

Residence Hall Association

President-elect Jadd Stevens will give up his position as representative for the residence halls in the Committee for Fees Allocation.

Stevens said that according to the RHA constitution, he is not allowed to hold two elected offices.

The following students were elected Wednesday:

RHA executive board: Jadd Stevens, president; Liz Ormsby, vice president; Jason Ball, treasurer; Aja Bowling, secretary.

Abel: Rebecca Overgaard, president; Matt Knobbe, senator.

Burr/Fedde: Megan Meyer, president; Ethan Joy, senator.

Cather: Tiffany Quinze, president; Harper: Daniel Becic, president; David Lockwood and Chris Vario, senators.

Neihardt: Mike Butterfield, president; Ben Miriovsky and Luke Schreier, senators.

Pound: Andy Wigton, president; Brian Arnold, senator.

Sandoz: Lynn Kratky, president.

Schramm: Jason Ryan, president; Mari Walsh, senator.

Selleck: Mandy Smith, president; Mike Kwon and Shaun Ilahi, senators.

Smith: Melanie Mitzel, president; Desiree Walsh, senator.

Campus catches kickboxing craze

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increasingly popular this year.

But despite the fancy infomercials and personal testimonies that seem to signal a trend, Robinson said the program that combines martial arts, boxing and aerobics is going to be around for a while.

"It's becoming more mainstream than a trend," Robinson said, "It's becoming an integral part of many fitness programs."

While combining kickboxing with an aerobic component has seen the peak of its popularity in the last couple of years, it's not new, said Frank Thiboutot, creator of a program called CardioKickboxing.

After being involved in the sport of kickboxing, Thiboutot said he started promoting kickboxing for fitness seven or eight years ago to make the sport more well-known.

During the last couple of years, his program has taken off, Thiboutot said. He attributes it to the increased awareness of the benefits that kickboxing provides.

"So many people are getting

hooked on it," Thiboutot said. "They like kicking and punching the bags."

While CardioKickboxing uses equipment, the classes at campus rec aren't equipment intensive. Robinson said participants still get benefits even though there aren't bags to punch on or shields to hold.

"Along with the cardiovascular and muscular endurance, it makes people feel confident in their physical presence and balance," Robinson said. "That is something that is important in physical fitness."

Robinson said campus rec hopes to add more classes or move Kick Boxing Express to a bigger area so that equipment such as ropes and shields can be used.

With or without equipment, Thiboutot said, the classes and videos tend to be popular with women because they traditionally haven't participated in kickboxing before.

"What I've found over the years is that women really like it because it's something they historically haven't done."

The kickboxing class at UNL

doesn't limit itself to one gender, however. Robinson said that while aerobics classes tend to be dominated by a female presence, the class has attracted men, too.

With the onslaught of kickboxing programs such as Tae-Bo and CardioKickboxing, Jean Walcher, from the American Council on Exercise, said that it was important to make sure each program was legitimate and safe.

Walcher said if the workout instructor was backed by a quality club and had a degree in a fitness field or had certification, it is most likely safe.

The most important thing to look for is qualifications in addition to being trained in kickboxing, Walcher said.

But by moving the classes to a bigger space to keep up with the demand, students can have the advantage of a real live workout instead of staring into a TV screen, and worrying if a program is safe or not.

"We're hoping the popularity does keep up so we can move to a bigger area," Robinson said.

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