

## Homer dome

Nebraska's soccer team picked up a home-field advantage for the NCAA Tournament on Sunday with a No. 4 seed. PAGE 10



## Indie Books

Lee Booksellers celebrates its 20th anniversary as one of a dying breed — an independent, privately owned bookstore. PAGE 13

November 8, 1999

A RECORD-BREAKER

Mostly sunny, high 82. Partly cloudy tonight, low 45.

# Daily Nebraskan

VOL. 99

COVERING THE UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA-LINCOLN SINCE 1901

NO. 54

## Chi Phi says it's on track

■ After a rough year, fraternity members have worked to gain respect for their organization.

By ERIC RINEER  
Staff writer

Members of Chi Phi Fraternity say they are back on track after being hit with a number of disciplinary sanctions nearly a year ago.

In January, Chi Phi experienced a low point in its chapter's history when a drunken sophomore female student fell from one of Chi Phi's third-story windows after an off-campus initiation party.

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln Judicial Affairs responded to the event in February by imposing 12 sanctions on Chi Phi and evicting about half of its members.

Forty-two members were evicted, and 37 stayed and faced the consequences. The fraternity now has 31 members living in its house. Ten members live outside the house.

Other sanctions included placing Chi Phi on conduct probation until May 2001 and hiring a graduate assistant to live at Chi Phi to monitor the fraternity's compliance with the university code of conduct.

Jaron Luttich, Chi Phi president, said he felt the sanctions were a learning experience and also a challenge that his fraternity welcomed.

"We had to learn a lot very quickly," Luttich said. "Right now, the status of the house is more positive than ever."

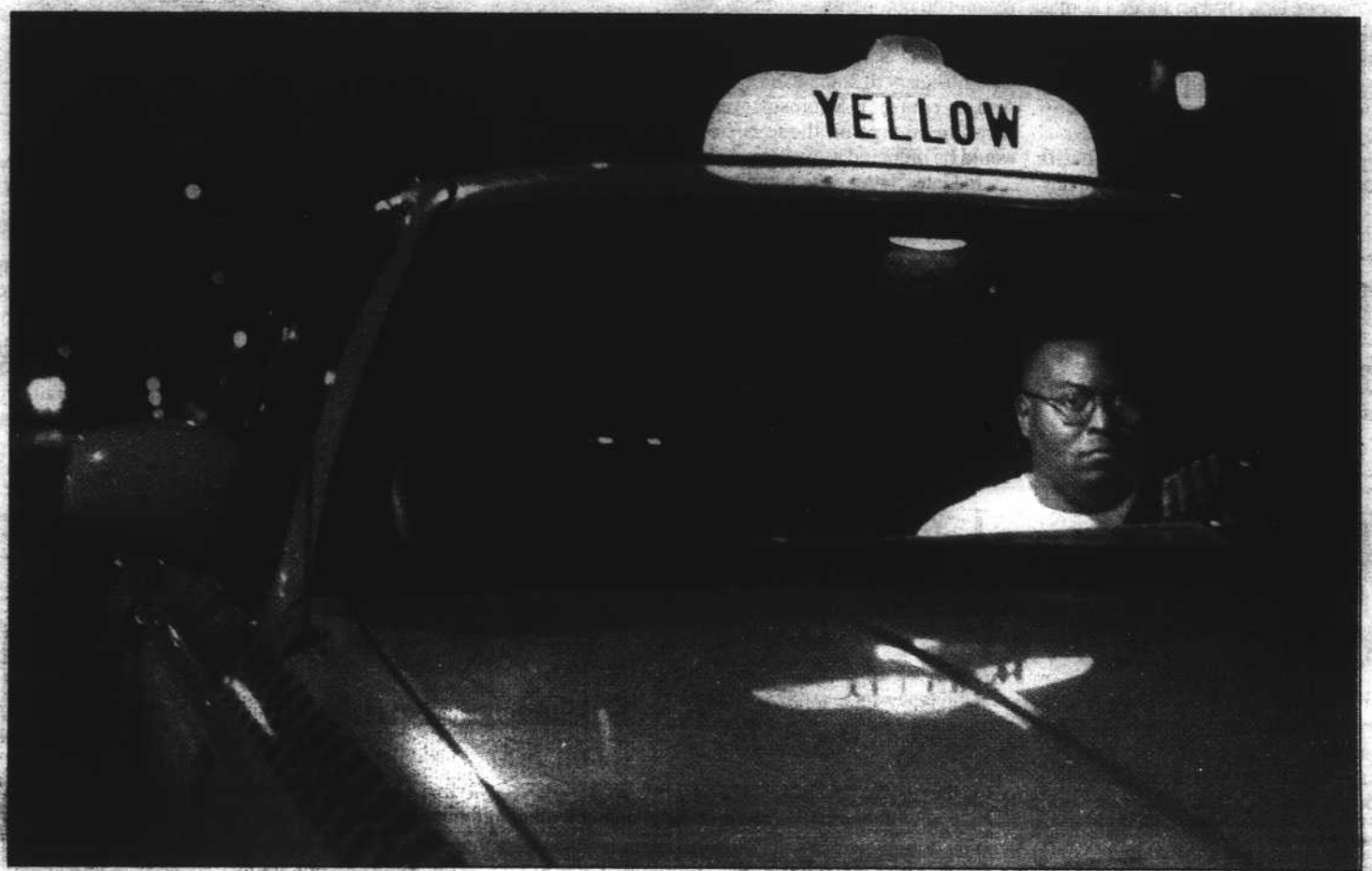
Linda Schwartzkopf, director of Greek Affairs, said Chi Phi is heading in the right direction.

"I think the group is working very hard to meet both the university's expectations and the expectations of their national organization," Schwartzkopf said.

Rosemary Blum, director of Judicial Affairs, said she was impressed at Chi Phi's efforts in keeping the office informed of its progress.

"Chi Phi took it, that step, before I even had a

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MIKE NEAL, an NU on Wheels driver, waits to pick up a student near 16th and R streets Saturday night. Neal, also a UNL senior music major, said Saturday nights tend to be busiest for the safe-ride-home program. JOSH WOLFE/DN

## Taxi rides running smoothly

By JAKE BLEED  
Senior staff writer

Driving students home from bars or parties on weekend nights sounds like a messy, thankless job.

The drunken college student stereotype — noisy and sick — quickly jumps to mind.

But after almost a month of service, drivers in the NU on Wheels program have little to complain about.

Two UNL students, graduate student Darren Petersen and senior music major Mike Neal, were hired by Husker Cabs Inc. to work exclusively for NU on Wheels.

Along with two full-time Husker Cab drivers, the two UNL students work two or three

"You gotta look at the whole system. Every once in a while you're going to get a bad apple."

JERRY LYONS  
NU on Wheels driver

nights a week making sure students, drunk or not, have a safe ride home.

NU on Wheels offers free cab rides to University of Nebraska-Lincoln students and their friends from 11 p.m. to 3 a.m. on Thursday through Saturday.

Petersen said he hasn't had many problems, that riders are grateful and that he even enjoys

the job.

A minor fight between one of his riders and another man was the only problem Petersen named and one he dismissed as the normal behavior of drunks.

"People have been drinking, but they aren't

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## Regents hear how NU could save millions

■ Coordinating campus computer systems could save money, official says.

By KIMBERLY SWEET  
Senior staff writer

The University of Nebraska could fill its pockets with about an extra \$15 million by coordinating business functions between its four campuses.

That was the news delivered to the NU Board of Regents on Friday by a task force appointed to find out where the university could realize more administrative efficiency.

The task force, made up of business people from the private sector and administrators from the four campuses, identified three areas where NU could see big savings.

NU could save up to \$5 million by centralizing its computing functions, said David Lechner, vice president for business and finance and a member of the committee.

To do this, the university would need to centralize decision-making on what kind of computer hardware and software to buy.

"Without collaboration of systems, we're going to have duplication," Lechner said.

The four campuses should work

together to set common computing priorities, he said.

"We have to set up a prioritization system," Lechner said. "We can't afford to move forward as four separate campuses."

Another area where the university could coordinate functions is in purchasing. Three million dollars could be saved if the four campuses standardized their purchasing procedures, Lechner said.

Enhancing computer systems to increase purchasing online will save paper and money, he said.

The task force also looked for areas where the University of Nebraska could bring in additional

revenue. Strengthening distance education programs could be a potential money-maker, said Beth Klosterman, a member of the task force from David City.

Right now, the university has cutting-edge technology that makes its distance education programs innovative, Klosterman said.

But NU needs to take advantage of the position it is in to provide distance education to the state, the nation and the world, she said.

"We have a competitive edge because of the technology we have," Klosterman said. "That margin is going to disappear if we don't move forward fast."

### Regents

Klosterman said efforts need to be made to form a team that will position NU to enter the market of distance education.

The regents will take the committee's recommendations under consideration and discuss them at coming meetings, said Nancy O'Brien, chairwoman of the regents.

The task force was formed to determine how the university can save money in business operations to free

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