



Weekend of Honor

Several former Nebraska volleyball standouts will be honored this weekend at the Bob Devaney Sports Center during the Baylor match. PAGE 11

Smooth Moves

Internet site teaches the basics of social dancing, including the waltz, Foxtrot and swing, in the privacy of your own home. PAGE 13

November 19, 1999

HELL IS COOLING DOWN

Cloudy, flurries, high 46. Partly cloudy tonight, low 25.

Daily Nebraskan

VOL. 99

COVERING THE UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA-LINCOLN SINCE 1901

NO. 62

Backlash motivates UNL gay community

Recent events that could be termed setbacks garner awareness of struggles, some say.

BY DANE STICKNEY
Staff writer

Ron Brown, assistant coach for the Nebraska football team, made controversial comments about homosexuality on his radio show.

A student at the University of Wisconsin at Madison took the university to court because he didn't want his student fees to support groups such as the gay and lesbian organization.

Notre Dame University banned advertisements from gay organizations from its student newspaper.

Jimmy Creech was stripped of his powers in the Methodist Church for performing a marriage ceremony for two men in North Carolina.

In recent weeks, the gay community has experienced an avalanche of negative situations, but members and supporters of Lincoln's gay community said they felt the problems are signs of accomplishment.

Deanna Zaffke, a member of UNL's gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered organization, said the recent situations will not stunt the growth of the GLBT movement.

"It's all backlash," she said. "It's backlash to the games the gay community has won across the country. It shows we're on the right track, and we need to keep doing what we're doing."

"This is not demoralizing. It's motivational."

Zaffke said there have been many victories to inspire the gay community to keep striving for equal rights.

"More companies across the nation have decided to offer domestic-partner benefits," she said. "The mayor (of Lincoln) gave us a

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It doesn't set us back. These events ... bring some important issues forward.”

BEA CARRASCO
graduate adviser of GLBT resource center

proclamation of support. If we dwell exclusively on the bad, we might get discouraged, but there is plenty of positive motivation out there.”

Bea Carrasco, graduate adviser of UNL's GLBT resource center, said the publicity the negative events are getting will only help make more people aware of the gay community's struggles.

"It doesn't set us back," she said. "It's never easy, and these events show that, but they do bring some important issues forward. It makes people aware and brings up certain points of view."

Carrasco likened the struggle for gay rights to the black civil rights movement in the late 1960s.

"The blacks fought, and they're still fighting," she said. "Things have gotten a lot better for them, but it didn't happen overnight. We have to realize that and keep trying, and eventually, we'll get closer to our goals."

Erin Watson, a supporter of gay rights and a UNL senior, said the attempts by conservative people to condemn gay people have backfired.

"They're making all of these big issues to demonize gay people," she said. "Now people are realizing how ridiculous some of these issues are. They're opening themselves up to our cause."

Carrasco said religion plays a role in each of the recent situations that have affected the

Please see **BACKLASH** on 3

A laughing matter



LANE HICKENBOTTOM/DN

HOLLY HETH, a Political Science 398 student, laughs at a response made in a mock debate by one of the candidates in their Women in Politics class Thursday night. Heth played a member of the media in simulation. SEE STORY ON PAGE 6.

E-mail system pleases NU

BY ERIC RINEER
Staff writer

University of Nebraska administrators say the migration of its personnel onto one e-mail system has been going tremendously well, despite a major shift to a more complicated product.

In 1997, the NU Board of Regents approved an advanced e-mail system, known as Lotus Notes, to replace the 30 e-mail systems that the university's campuses currently use.

Since 1997, thousands of NU faculty, staff and students have been shifting from older e-mail systems to the newer Lotus Notes.

Most NU administrators said their experiences with the new e-mail system have been positive.

By the time NU is entirely changed to Lotus Notes, those who use the product will be among about 34 million other users around the world who use the system.

Lotus Notes, deemed by some as one of the top e-mail systems in the world, gives itself its reputation by providing its users with a number of features, said Greg Gray, software specialist for NU Central Administration.



MATT HANEY/DN

Since the Board of Regents' approval of Lotus Notes three years ago, Gray has found himself in the mix of the campuses' change to the system.

Gray acts as Lotus Notes technical team leader

Please see **LOTUS** on 3

Charges against ticket taker dropped

BY JAKE BLEED
Senior staff writer

Charges against a 53-year-old Memorial Stadium ticket taker arrested for letting ticketless fans in for cash were dropped Thursday.

Instead, Roger "Doc" Baskerville, a Washington, Kan., high school superintendent, was allowed into a pretrial diversion program, Lancaster County Attorney Gary Lacey said.

Baskerville faces a variety of lesser punishments including community service, paying restitution and seeing a counselor, Lacey said.

The two misdemeanor charges — theft of services and aiding and abetting in first-degree criminal trespassing — were barely a day old before they were dropped.

Baskerville's punishment could last

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He's still employed until the courts have made all the settlements, until they're done.”

BUTCH HUG

Athletic Department director of events

about 12 months but, Lacey said, the details of the ticket taker's program have not been worked out.

University police arrested Baskerville Nov. 6 after an officer saw a man pay him

Please see **TICKETS** on 3