

# Murderer of UNL student set to die in electric chair

■ For the second time this month, the state high court sets date without request from attorney general.

By Michelle Starr  
Staff writer

The state high court said on Wednesday that Roger Bjorklund will be sent to die in the electric chair on June 1.

The decision marks the second time in a month the Nebraska Supreme Court has set an execution date for an inmate without a request from the attorney general's office.

Just a few weeks ago in February, the state Supreme Court completed its review of Bjorklund's case, said Kirk Brown, assistant attorney general.

Bjorklund was convicted of first-degree murder and use of a weapon to commit a felony in the 1992 murder of Candice Harms, who was an 18-year-old freshman at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Scott A. Barney, also was convicted for the murder and given a life sentence. Barney, while in custody for possession of a stolen vehicle in 1992, told police he and Bjorklund had kidnapped, raped and murdered Harms and led police to her body.

On Feb. 24 the court surprised both sides and set an April 26 execution date for John Lotter, despite a pending post-conviction hearing in Richardson County after the scheduled execution.

But on March 2, the court granted a stay of execution for Lotter because of the pending hearing.

Lotter and Marvin Nissen were convicted for the 1993 murders of Teena Brandon, Lisa Lambert and

Philip DeVine in a rural farmhouse near Humboldt.

Though both sides were surprised by the date set for Lotter, Brown said Bjorklund's case was much different from Lotter's case because of Lotter's pending hearing.

"This one isn't quite the surprise that the Lotter one was," Brown said.

The most recent action in Bjorklund's case was on Jan. 2, when the state Supreme Court denied Bjorklund's motion for a new trial.

But Brown also said Bjorklund has completed only two of the expected nine steps of appeal for death-row cases.

No action had been made by Alan Stoler, Bjorklund's attorney, and Brown said he was unsure whether Stoler would file an appeal before the execution date.

Stoler was unavailable for comment.

## CITY COUNCIL

# Golf course resolutions passed

■ Golf pros' contracts renewed with changes that will increase city's revenue.

By Cara Pesek  
Staff writer

At its Monday meeting, the City Council unanimously passed three resolutions that will change the way things are done at Lincoln's five public golf courses.

Each of the resolutions renewed a golf professional's contract with a Lincoln golf course. The city made changes to the contracts, which may allow the city to earn more money from the courses.

Steve Hiller, superintendent of administration and communication services at the Lincoln Parks and

Recreation Department, said in the past, the PGA members at the courses leased or owned golf carts.

The professionals then were able to rent the golf carts to course patrons and collect the revenue from the rentals, Hiller said.

Under the old system, Hiller said, the city's golf courses had a total of about 200 carts.

Now, the city will lease about 225 carts and will be entitled to most of the profits from the golf-cart rental.

The golf professionals will receive 25 percent of the revenue, Hiller said.

He said he hoped the new program would generate about \$200,000 annually for the city.

Councilwoman Cindy Johnson said she was surprised that the golf professionals had agreed to turn control of the golf-cart rental over to the city.

"I'm a little confused," she said. "I thought this was something they didn't want to give up."

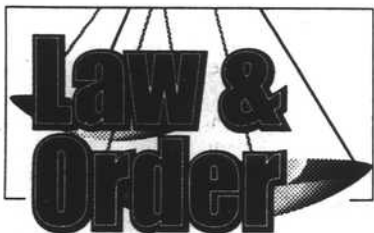
Councilman Jerry Shoecraft said he thought change in control of the golf carts was hurting the quality of Lincoln's public golf courses.

"I'm not happy now that we've lost two excellent golf pros at our public courses," Shoecraft said. "It affects the quality of our service."

But Hiller said only one golf pro, Marc Cruse, has left. Hiller didn't say why. Another golf pro, Dale Hardy, has been moved to an administrative position that will allow him to work with all the courses.

Hiller said 12 golf professionals have shown interest in the open position.

"I'm confident we can find someone just as qualified or even better to fill the position," Hiller said.



## Sweet-smelling bandits hit Osco stores

Two Osco Drug stores were hit by cologne bandits Sunday.

Between 1:30 p.m. and 2 p.m. a customer notified a clerk at the store at 130 N 66th St., Suite B, that some people had taken cologne from the locked glass case, Lincoln Police Ofc. Katherine Finnell said.

Nineteen bottles were taken from the store, totaling \$723, Finnell said.

Around the same time the store at 233 N 48th St., Suite C, also reported that 10 bottles of cologne were taken from a locked glass case, Finnell said. A total of \$627 worth of cologne was taken from the second store.

A customer at the first store described seeing three men near the cologne aisle at about the same time the cologne was taken, Finnell said.

The customer also said the men left in a car with Dodge County plates.

## Cashier gives more than \$1000 in wrong change

Two people were arrested Saturday on felony charges of theft by deception.

Management at Kmart Super Center, 3300 N. 27th St., noticed that a 17-year-old employee had been missing cash from her cash-register drawer and decided to watch her while at work.

About 11:19 p.m. a 16-year-old boy entered the store, bought something and went through the girl's check-out lane.

Management noticed that through-

out the girl's shift she accumulated a large number of bills in the one-dollar-bill slot in the register, Finnell said.

When the girl made change for the boy she handed him a large number of bills. The boy was stopped at the door and had been given \$1,292 in change from the girl, Finnell said.

The management suspects that this was the second time the boy received a large amount of money from the girl while she was working.

## Man dies in fall from fire escape

A man died early Sunday morning when he slipped from a fire escape in the Haymarket.

Ryan Sydow, 21, 2321 Wildwood Place, was at a party when he attempted to climb from the roof to the fire escape.

Sydow first hit a power line with 7,000 volts running through it, then fell 45 feet to the ground. He was pronounced dead at the scene, Finnell said.

## Smearred feces found in Morrill Hall bathroom

Ten times in the past month someone has smearred fecal matter on the walls of Morrill Hall's first floor unisex bathroom in the west side of the building, University Police Sgt. Mylo Bushing said.

The most recent report was filed on Friday, he said.

The incidents all have occurred sometime after closing time, between midnight and 7 a.m., Bushing said.

No evidence of forced entry has been reported, and there are no suspects at this time, Bushing said.

Compiled by staff writer Michelle Starr

Senior question #77 "Do I need a moving company?"  
get all the answers: [unl.eGrad2000.com](http://unl.eGrad2000.com)

Senior question #40 "Do I need a briefcase?"  
get all the answers: [unl.eGrad2000.com](http://unl.eGrad2000.com)

**"TACO TUESDAY"**  
4 CRISPY CORN TACOS FOR \$3.99  
STOP IN WEDNESDAY FOR "TACOS & TACHAS" at ARTURO'S  
803 'Q' ST. 475-TACO

## Ballet d'Afrique Noire

### The Mandinka Epic

Company of 30 dancers, singers and musicians bring alive the traditional song and dance of West Africa.

Thursday, March 23, 8PM

Lied Center for Performing Arts  
Lincoln, NE  
Tickets: 472-4747 or 1-800-432-3231  
Box Office: 11:00AM-5:30PM M-F  
Website: [www.unl.edu/lied/](http://www.unl.edu/lied/)

TEN YEARS  
Nebraska University of Nebraska-Lincoln  
Lied Center programming is supported by the Friends of Lied and grants from the National Endowment for the Arts, Mid-America Arts Alliance and the Nebraska Arts Council. All events are made possible by the Lied Performance Fund which has been established in memory of Ernet F. Lied and his parents, Ernet M. and Ida K. Lied.  
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## Nebraska Feed Your Brain at the University of Nebraska Research Fair

Saturday, March 25, 2000  
10 a.m. - 3 p.m.  
Nebraska Union Centennial Room  
1400 R Street No Admission Charge

Fill your head with ideas at the University Research Fair. Booths and poster displays from every College show off our depth and breadth of Research and Creative Activity. From the Dead Sea Scrolls to Biotechnology, Astronomy to Quilts, Global Positioning Systems to Adolescent Alcohol use. Nebraska researchers create new knowledge to inform the world.

10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Faculty Displays and Posters  
1 - 2:30 p.m. Graduate Student Poster Viewing and Judging  
2:30 - 3:00 p.m. Graduate Student Poster Awards Ceremony

FREE ICE CREAM • Feed Your Brain Research Fair  
This coupon entitles bearer to one FREE Mug toothbeer float with University Dairy Store ice cream or ice cream cone. Good only on March 25, 2000 between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. at the University Research Fair, Nebraska Union Centennial Ballroom

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