

# Law & Order

**Police arrest man for allegedly firing shots**  
A man was arrested in North

Lincoln for firing shots Wednesday. Lincoln Police Ofc. Steven Niemyer was in the area of 28th and Starr streets when he heard a noise, Lincoln Police Ofc. Katherine Finnell said. Police said Niemyer went to where he heard people, and saw a man come around a corner with a gun. Niemyer arrested Terrance Watford, 21, 2800 Dudley St., after he had fired several rounds of a semi-auto-

matic pistol into the ground at his home following a disturbance, Finnell said. According to police, when the serial number was checked on the gun, it had been reported stolen from Perkins County on April 5. Watford was arrested for discharge of a firearm in the city and possession of a stolen firearm, Finnell said. Compiled by staff writer Michelle Starr

## ELECTION 2000

# Debate focuses on farm issues

By Brian Carlson  
Staff writer

Republican Senate candidates offered differing plans Thursday for addressing the state's struggling agricultural economy.

With a new farm bill scheduled to be written in 2002, the issue will come to the fore during the next Nebraska senator's term.

In a two-hour debate at the Clifford Hardin Nebraska Center for Continuing Education on the University of Nebraska-Lincoln East Campus, the candidates focused on agriculture and natural resource issues.

Four candidates who will appear on the May 9 GOP primary ballot participated: Attorney General Don Stenberg, Secretary of State Scott Moore, Scottsbluff agribusinessman Dave Hergert and former state Sen. John DeCamp of Clatonia. Omaha businessman George Grogan, who is not actively campaigning, did not attend.

Stenberg, the GOP front-runner in a March Omaha World-Herald poll, said the government should open foreign markets for farmers and promote ethanol, biodiesel and other "value-added" agricultural products.

The government also should provide price insurance and possibly raise loan rates to curb excess production, Stenberg said. Any proposal, he said, must be able to gain passage in Congress.

"The key is trying to get a fair market price," he said.

Hergert said the government should raise loan rates to control the overproduction that has led to low commodity prices.

"It's imperative that we get our supply in balance with our demand," he said.

But Moore disagreed, saying higher loan rates were incompatible with production for a global market.

If the government raises loan rates, he said, production will fall, and U.S. farmers will be unable to increase their share of the world food market.

"I have the courage to tell you, you can't have it both ways," he said.

As part of his farm plan introduced Wednesday, Moore proposed that existing farm subsidies be tied to factors beyond the farmer's control, including the strength of the dollar, the level of world production and foreign predatory trade practices. The plan would encourage production while restoring predictability to farm incomes, he said.

DeCamp said the 1996 Freedom to Farm Act was the "single cruelest hoax" played on farmers. He said the government should assist farmers by promoting ethanol and other industries using farm products.

The candidates continued their disagreement about the proper use of the budget surplus.

Stenberg has said the surplus

*"It's imperative that we get our supply in balance with our demand."*

**Dave Hergert**  
GOP Senate candidate

should be used for substantial tax cuts. Farmers and ranchers would benefit from the abolition of the inheritance tax and the "marriage penalty" and a reduction of the capital gains tax, he said.

Moore agreed that the capital gains and inheritance taxes should be cut. But he favors using the budget surplus to pay down the national debt, then cutting taxes through spending cuts.

Hergert said the surplus belongs to the taxpayers and should be returned to them.

DeCamp said he wants more proof that the surpluses actually will materialize, warning that "bigbubble.com" - the strong economy - could soon burst.

Moore, Hergert and Stenberg all expressed concerns about proposed corporate mergers in the food industry, such as Cargill with Continental Grain and Smithfield Farms with Murphy Foods.

They also called for the preservation of the family farm, an important source of low food prices, and a stable domestic food supply. Moore quoted William Jennings Bryan, who warned that cities would wither and die if farms collapsed.

The candidates agreed that European restrictions on genetically modified food are unfair trade barriers that are not justified by science.

On the issue of deregulation of the energy sector, the candidates expressed disagreement.

Moore said Nebraska has benefited from its unique system of exclusively public power.

Hergert and DeCamp said the public power system should be deregulated to benefit consumers. Stenberg said deregulation might benefit consumers, although private power providers might be discouraged from competing with Nebraska's efficient public power system.

Although the candidates agreed that the Endangered Species Act has been too burdensome for farmers and ranchers, Moore parted ways on a remedy.

The candidates agreed that some restrictions placed on farming practices to protect certain endangered species are enforced too zealously.

But while Stenberg, Hergert and DeCamp called for a change in the way the act is enforced, Moore called for a complete revision of the act.

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Marcy Rabe  
Kelly Davis

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Chi Omega  
Pi Beta Phi  
Chi Omega  
Kappa Kappa Gamma  
Kappa Alpha Theta  
Kappa Alpha Theta

Laura Schwehr  
Kate Toalson  
Callie Crawford  
Molly Schmitz  
Kelli Palmer  
Julie Stewart  
Chris Linder

Phi Mu  
Alpha Xi Delta  
Phi Mu  
Gamma Phi Bet  
Kappa Delta  
Delta Delta Delta  
Honorary Gamma Gamma

#### Interfraternity Council:

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J.B. Goll  
Patrick McInteer  
John Grebe  
Ryan Stowe  
Todd Franzen  
Vernon Miller  
Jeff Barwig  
Robert Joseph

Alpha Tau Omega  
Phi Gamma Delta  
Farmhouse  
Sigma Phi Epsilon  
Delta Tau Delta  
Alpha Gamma Sigma  
Pi Kappa Alpha  
Beta Theta Pi  
Alpha Gamma Sigma

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Ryan Felton  
Paul Schreier  
Joel Wiegert  
Caleb Jensen  
Juan Izaguirre  
Eddie Brown  
Andy Schuerman

Delta Tau Delta  
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Beta Theta Pi  
Beta Theta Pi  
Sigma Alpha Epsilon  
Sigma Lambda Beta  
Alpha Phi Alpha  
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Monte Else  
Brian Magnusson  
Jaron Luttich  
Nick Hansen  
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Farmhouse  
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Kappa Delta

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Brady Friez Alpha Omicron Pi  
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