

Keeping culture alive focus of Hispanic event

BY VERONICA DAEHN

Sometimes, amidst the onslaught of mainstream culture, minorities can forget to keep in touch with their own cultures.

Or at least that's what one organizer of tonight's Hispanic Cultural Heritage Month event said.

Frederik Hansen, co-coordinator of the event, said Martin Ramirez, a coun-

selor at the University Health Center, would speak about preserving cultures on the University of Nebraska-Lincoln campus today at 7 p.m. in the Nebraska Union.

"This program will take a look at Hispanics and how they should keep their cultures on campus," Hansen said.

Ramirez said he would talk about how Hispanics could preserve their culture for the future and how they could also use it in

the present.

Society is becoming more tolerant and aware of the Hispanic population, Ramirez said, and now Hispanics are struggling with how they fit into that new definition.

"We don't know what to call ourselves," Ramirez said. "That's the dilemma with Hispanics right now."

Ramirez's talk will be followed by a

question and answer dialogue, Hansen said. Food and beverages will also be available.

Hansen said he hoped this event would differ from the usual minority panel discussions that center on the problems a particular minority group has.

"People talk about issues all the time," Hansen said. "We're trying to do something a little different here. Sometimes it's important to value what you have."

Though tonight's event is in honor of Hispanic Cultural Heritage Month, it is not just for Hispanic students.

Hansen said he hoped

other minority and non-minority students would attend.

It's important for all students to understand their cultures and heritage, Hansen said. "But at the same time, they have to find a balance."

"A lot of people try to be American because society forces them to," Hansen said. "But at the same time, they have to find a balance."

"How much of my culture should I keep, and how much should I let go?" Ramirez said Hispanics were headed in the right direction.

"It can be done," he said. "Even though we're in the midst of an identity struggle, we still have to feel good about ourselves and preserve our culture."

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Law & Order

Woman arrested after wrestling with officer

A routine parking complaint went awry Wednesday afternoon when the car's owner tried to interfere with the towing and assaulted an officer.

Around 2:30 p.m., police were called to 2013 G St. because a gray BMW Bavaria had been parallel parked across the driveway opening, Lincoln Police Capt. David Beggs said.

One neighbor, who said he knew the woman, said she left the car parked there while she left to get a credit card because she had run out of gas.

The parking services officer and tow truck driver had already raised the car in preparation for towing when the woman, Jennifer Tucker, 20, returned.

"When she got back, her car was in the air and she became hysterical," said the neighbor, Gary Heumphreus, who lives in an apartment building next door.

The parking officer called for backup in dealing with Tucker. After the officer arrived, Tucker continued to be belligerent.

Heumphreus said Tucker was trying to convince the officers to

charge the towing to her credit card and release the car.

At some point during the dispute, Tucker and the officer became tangled in a physical struggle and ended up wrestling on the ground, Lincoln Police Capt. G.R. Imes said. An officer-down call broadcast on police radios summoned several additional officers to assist.

Fifteen-year-old Kevin Lind, whose mother made the original parking complaint, said Tucker kept yelling she was pregnant during the struggle in an attempt to get the officer to stop.

Beggs said hospital tests later showed Tucker was not pregnant.

The car was towed, and Tucker was taken to the hospital for evaluation. The officer was not injured.

At the hospital, police learned Tucker was also under the influence of a narcotic.

Tucker was arrested for felony assault on an officer and four misdemeanor charges: internal possession of a narcotic, resisting arrest, failure to comply with an officer's order and interfering with a government operation.

Compiled by Josh Funk.

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